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AIRCRAFT BORNE MEASUREMENTS OF INFRARED ENHANCEMENTS DURING ICECAP 1975 AND 1976

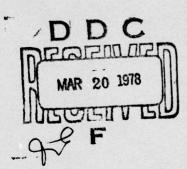
Ronald J. Huppi J.W. Reed, Major, USAF



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18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

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Nitric oxide, aurora, hydroxyl, radiometer, NKC-135A aircraft, emissions, auroral enhancement, infrared.

Significant infrared emission enhancements in the 2.75-3.04µm region have been measured from the APGL NKC-135A aircraft while viewing an aurorally excited atmosphere with a radiometer. The measured enhancements occurred while viewing all types of auroral forms, and they became significant with respect to the night sky background emissions whenever the N<sub>2</sub> emissions at 3914A exceeded

about 20 kiloRayleighs.

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Within the angular resolution capabilities of the instrumentation, the measured 2.8 µm enhancements appeared to co-vary spatially and temporally with enhancements in the ionization-prompt fluorescence of the  $N_2$ . The enhancements did not correlate with emissions of the (5,3) band of the hydroxyl (OH)  $\Delta V=2$  sequence at 1.7 µm. Therefore, it is unlikely that the enhancements were the result of increases in the OH fundamental sequence due to perturbed airglow processes.

It appears that the most probable source creating the enhancements is the first overtone of nitric oxide (NO). Using the measured 2.8 µm and 3914A data and a synthetic NO model, the percentage of the total auroral electron energy which is radiated as first overtone NO photons was calculated for seven enhancement periods. The calculated percentage, photo-energy efficiencies, ranged from .4% to 1.0%.

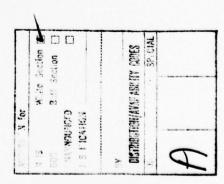
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### PREFACE

The High Altitude Effects Simulation (HAES) Program sponsored by the Defense Nuclear Agency since the early 1970 time period, comprises several groupings of separate, but interrelated technical activities, e.g., ICECAP (Infrared Chemistry Experiments--Coordinated Auroral Program). Each of the latter have the common objective of providing information ascertained as essential for the development and validation of predictive computer codes designed for use with high priority DOD radar, communications, and optical defensive systems.

Since the inception of the HAES Program, significant achievements and results have been described in reports published by DNA, participating service laboratories, and supportive organizations. In order to provide greater visibility for such information and enhance its timely applications, significant reports published since early calendar 1974 shall be identified with an assigned HAES serial number and the appropriate activity acronym (e.g., ICECAP) as part of the report title. A complete and current bibliography of all HAES reports issued prior to and subsequent to HAES Report No. 1, dated 5 February 1974 entitled, "Rocket Launch of an SWIR Spectrometer into an Aurora (ICECAP 72)", AFCRL Environmental Research Paper No. 466, is maintained and available on request from DASIAC, DOD Nuclear Information and Analysis Center, 816 State Street, Santa Barbara, California 93102, Telephone (805) 965-0551.

This report, Scientific Report Number 3 under Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (AFGL, formerly AFCRL) contract F19628-74-C-0190 is the sixty eighth report in the HAES series, and covers a portion of the ICECAP airborne technical efforts performed by the AFGL Infrared Flying Laboratory during February-March 1975 and February-March 1976. The purpose of the work reported herein was to investigate high altitude atmospheric infrared emissions from the spatially and temporally varying locations of the NKC-135A platform at the same times as intense auroral sampling efforts from ground and rocket-borne ICECAP experiments were being performed. Thus, a cost effective state of the art probe of selected infrared radiations was made to provide bench mark radiance level measurements for determination of future spectral scanning instrument specifications.



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### INTRODUCTION

Apparent enhancements of infrared emissions in the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  region have been measured with a radiometer operated from the AFGL NKC-135 aircraft in the auroral region. The enhancements appear to co-vary spatially and temporally with the ionization-prompt fluorescence of  $N_2^+$  as monitored by a 3914A photometer. However, better spatial resolution measurements are needed to more accurately study the correlation between the emissions.

The enhancements were measured during the 1975 and 1976 ICECAP programs supported by the Defense Nuclear Agency. The basic goals of the experiments were to confirm the existence of 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  enhancements in the auroral region, to measure the intensity of the enhancements, and to obtain spatial information about the enhancements. Also, concurrent measurements were made to aid in the determination of the source creating the enhancements. These concurrent measurements confirm that the enhancements cannot result from the airglow mechanisms producing OH emissions which fall within the spectral measurement bands. Thus, consideration is given to other probable sources, one of the most viable sources being the overtone of nitric oxide (NO).

In this report the instrumentation, the basic experiment, the measured results, and a fundamental analysis are discussed in detail. The absolute intensities of the emissions at the aircraft are provided, but to obtain absolute intensities of the emissions at the source one should correct the measured intensities for atmospheric transmittance losses using a high spectral resolution model.

### EXPERIMENT DESCRIPTION

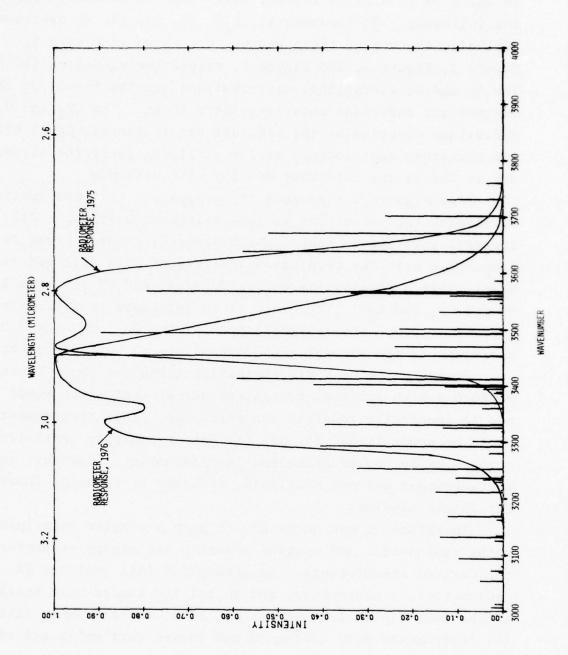
The experiment was planned to radiometrically measure enhancements in the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  region during periods of auroral activity. When planning such an experiment it is

necessary to give consideration to possible emissions that may be present in the spectral region of interest. Specifically, in the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  region, known sources of energy include the following: OH fundamental,  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$  and the NO overtone. Synthetic spectra of these sources are shown in Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3, and Figure 4, respectively, Gibson [1977]. The NO and OH vibrational distributions are the result of chemiluminescent reactions occurring above 80 km. The  $CO_2$  and  $H_2O$  radiations observed by the aircraft are in thermal equilibrium and therefore most intense at low altitudes (near the aircraft) due to decreasing molecular density with altitude.

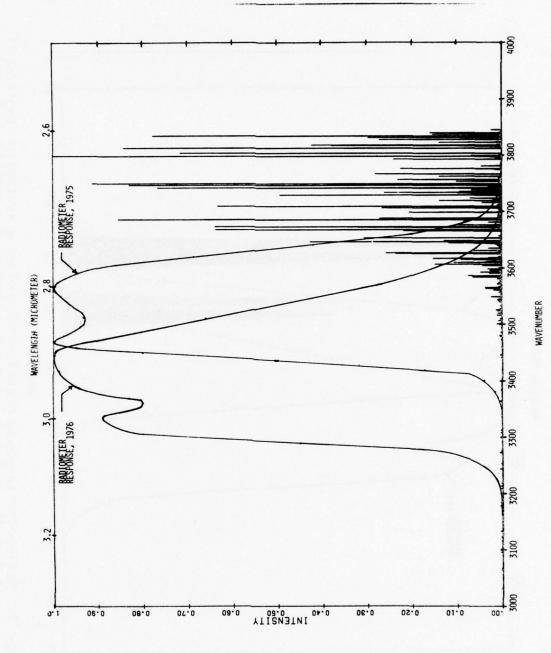
From Figures 1 through 4 it is apparent that the spectral wavelength regions of the various emissions overlap. All spectral wavelength bands, which are sufficiently broad to be compatible with the resolution limitations of a filtered radiometer, have a possibility of including NO and OH and to a lesser degree  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  and  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$ . Therefore it is necessary to discriminate against or prove the insignificance of the  $\mathrm{CO}_2$ , OH, and  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  emissions if the auroral enhancements are to be assigned to NO.

Probably the best discrimination technique would be to perform a high spectral resolution measurement which would allow one to spectrally identify the emissions. This measurement could be accomplished through the use of a highly sensitive cryogenically cooled Michelson interferometer. However, such an instrument was not available, although it is being fabricated for future missions.

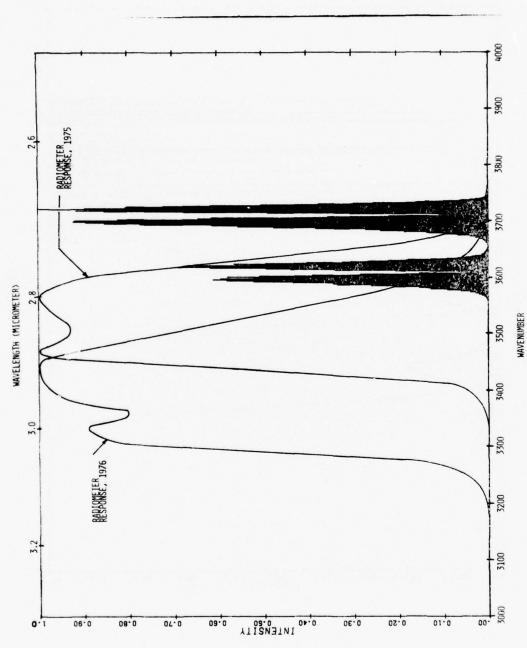
Therefore it was necessary to plan a simpler experiment using radiometric and spatial scanning techniques to perform the desired measurements. To accomplish this goal two IR radiometers, a photometer, and an all sky camera were installed in the AFGL flying laboratory, NKC 135A, serial number 53120. All instruments were coaligned and looked vertically out of the top of the aircraft. The aircraft not only provides a convenient platform to avoid low altitude atmospheric problems such as atmospheric thermal emissions, atmospheric transmittance



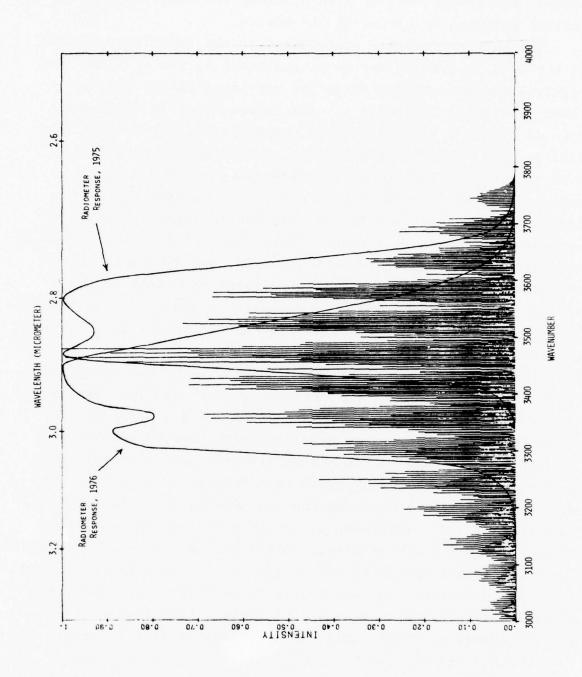
Radiometer response curves overlayed on a synthetic spectrum of OH  $\Delta V$  = 1 computed for  $T_R$  = 220  $^0 K$ ,  $T_V$  = 5000  $^0 K$ , and resolution = 1 cm  $^-1$  . Figure 1.



Radiometer response curves overlayed on a synthetic spectrum of  $\rm H_2O$  computed for  $\rm T_R=~220^OK,~T_V=~220^OK$  and resolution = 1 cm^-1. Figure 2.



Radiometer response curves overlayed on a synthetic spectrum of 2.7  $\mu m$  CO  $_2$  computed for  $T_R = T_V^=$  220°K and resolution = 1 cm  $^-1$  . Figure 3.



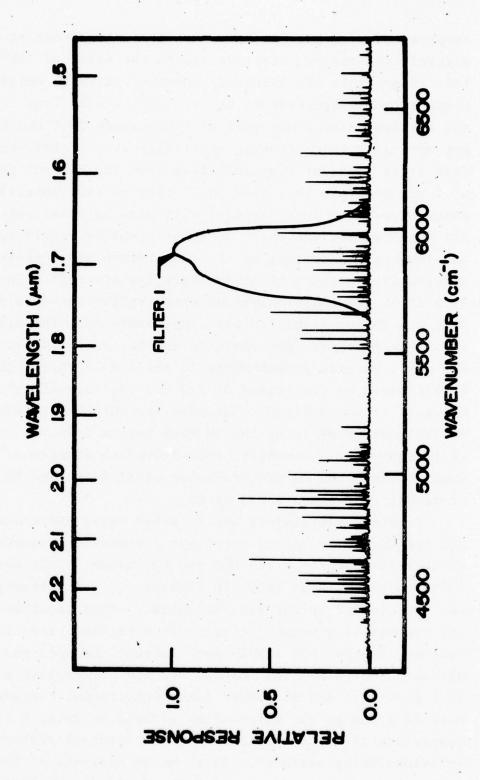
Radiometer response curves overlayed on a synthetic spectrum of NO  $\Delta V$  = 2 computed for  $T_R$  =  $220^{\rm O}K$ ,  $T_V$  =  $5000^{\rm O}K$ , resolution = 1 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Figure 4.

losses, and clouds; but it also provides the capability of limited scanning by virtue of its motion.

The main radiometer, fundamental to the experiment, looked in the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  region as indicated by the 1975 and 1976 spectral response curves which are overlayed on the spectra shown in Figures 1 through 4. The observations in 1975 were made in the 2.75 to 2.90  $\mu m$  band, hereafter referred to as the 2.83  $\mu m$  data; and the observations in 1976 were made in the 2.84 to 3.04  $\mu m$  band, hereafter referred to as the 2.94  $\mu m$  data. The general term, 2.8  $\mu m$  data, will be used whenever a common reference is made to both wavelength regions. It is obvious from Figures 1 through 4 that the radiometer's bandpasses were such that emissions from NO, OH, CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O could all contribute to the measured 2.8  $\mu m$  infrared emissions if the various sources have sufficient intensity. Therefore, additional instrumentation was needed to define the characteristics of the source.

The selected instrumentation supporting the main radiometer were useful for defining the emission sources and for removing the effects of non-aurorally enhanced emission sources which contaminate the measurement band. Consider the OH emissions. To allow the subtraction of the OH from the 2.8  $\mu$ m measurement, a second radiometer was operated in a spectral region, 1.7  $\mu$ m, which is free from H<sub>2</sub>O absorption and NO emissions and primarily includes only OH. The spectral response of this instrument is shown in Figure 5 and it mainly covers the OH  $\Delta$ V=2 (5,3) transition. One would expect the OH in this region to be directly correlated with the fundamental OH near 2.8  $\mu$ m Baken, [1976]. Therefore the amount of OH airglow contamination in the 2.8  $\mu$ m radiometer channel should be predictable and subtractable at all times.

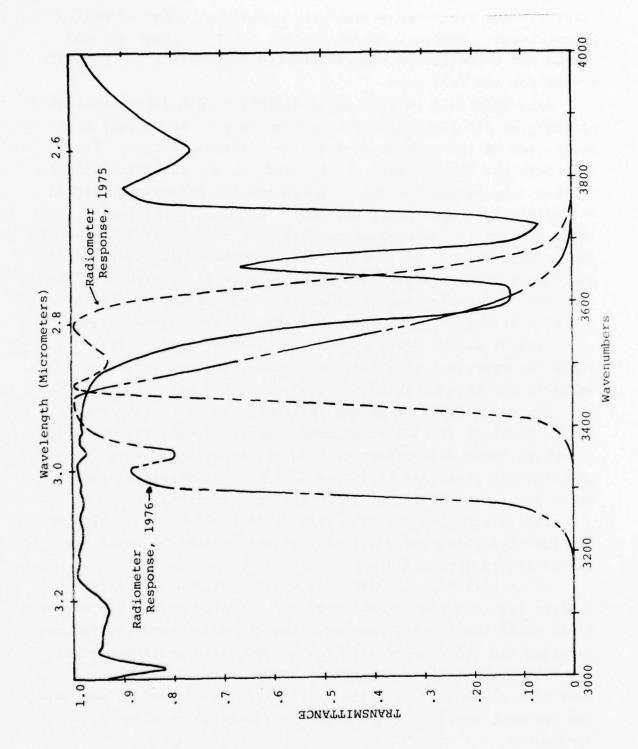
The  $\rm H_2O$  and  $\rm CO_2$  thermal emissions are typically a factor of 5 to 10 less than the hydroxyl airglow emissions at 2.8  $\mu m$  in a non-aurorally excited atmosphere. This is demonstrated by Stain [1976] (his Figure 2) where the hydroxyl spectral radiance is compared with blackbody emissions at various



7 Relative spectral response of the OH radiometer overlayed on an OH  $\Delta V$  = spectrum. Figure 5.

temperatures. Typically, outside air temperatures at the aircraft measurement altitude are on the order of 220°K. At this temperature the blackbody spectral radiance emission is comparable in magnitude to the OH airglow emissions. However, the atmosphere does not emit as a blackbody (H2O and CO2 are not optically thick looking vertically from 11 km), and therefore it is apparent that emissions from the H2O and CO2 species will be less than that from OH. Spatial and temporal variations which occur from these species will also be relatively small. Any small variations which do occur probably result from spatial and temporal variations of the temperature and density of the species at altitudes slightly above the aircraft. as a first order approximation these variations should correlate with the measured outside air temperature near the aircraft, and it is therefore desirable to monitor this temperature. In any case, auroral enhancements in the 2.8 µm region could not be explained by variations of  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  thermal emissions. However, if one desired to measure the absolute intensity of the NO  $\Delta V=2$  enhancements or the OH  $\Delta V=1$  levels from the aircraft, it is important to consider the absorption effects of these species since the OH originates at about 85 km and NO (aurorally produced) originates above 80 km.

Probably the easiest way to avoid being contaminated by  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emissions is to select a spectral measurement band which rejects most of the  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  bands. This was done in the 1976 measurements as shown in Figures 2,3. The absorption problem can be avoided by the same technique. This is illustrated in the Lowtran II atmospheric transmittance plot shown in Figure 6. However, in the 1975 ICECAP measurements the spectral band was not selected to be clear of the  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  regions as shown in Figures 2,3 and 6. Under these conditions, consideration must be given to the attenuation effects by using a line by line comparison of the absorptions and the spectral features of the emissions being measured. Based on an analysis of the measured data, the emission effects of  $\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  in the 1975 and 1976



Radiometer instrument responses overlayed on atmospheric transmittance calculated from Lowtran program for 10.5 km. Figure 6.

aircraft data are insignificant in comparison to the OH and NO emissions. However, the absorption might be important and should not be neglected especially when considering the absolute number for the 1975 data.

As a final aid in the source definition and discrimination process, an all sky camera can be used to give an overall wide angle view of the visible aurora as a function of time. From this data and the aircraft flight profile, one can discriminate between time variations due to a fluctuating aurora and spatial variations due to aircraft movement. Also, an uncalibrated indication of the auroral conditions over a large area of the sky is provided by the camera. This allows one to determine if any aurora exists in a region prior to when it is viewed by the aircraft radiometers and photometers. This information is of specific interest when the visible auroral intensity dissipates only seconds before being viewed by the other instruments, since any emissions with long radiative lifetimes would still be enhanced and measurable once the aircraft reaches the scene.

The measurement techniques discussed above as they relate to the function of each instrument used are summarized in Table 1. Using these measurement techniques, experiments were successfully performed in 1975 and 1976. The resulting measurements are discussed in detail in the next section.

Before studying the measurements it might be desirable to consider the characteristics of the instrumentation which are summarized in Appendix A.

It is believed that the data will provide a significant insight into our understanding of the infrared emission processes. It is worth mentioning, however, that the data should be further analyzed and coordinated with the ground-based instrumentation to perform an altitude dependency study by combining the Chatinika radar data with the aircraft data. A table summarizing the expected overlap of the radar measurements is given in Appendix B.

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENTS FOR INFRARED EXPERIMENT

CONSIDERATIONS & COMMENTS	NEED TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST OH, H <sub>2</sub> O, & CO <sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS.	NEED TO CONSIDER H <sub>2</sub> O ABSORPTION.	ASSUMES OH( $\Delta V=2$ AND OH ( $\Delta V=1$ ) EMISSIONS HAVE SAME BEHAVIOR.	PROVIDES ABSOLUTE ENERGY INPUT MEASURE- MENTS OF THE AURORA BEING VIEWED.	PROVIDES INFORMATION ON AURORA PRIOR TO AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL	IN USEFUL IF AN EMISSION WITH A LONG RADIATIVE LIFETIME EXISTS.	ALTITUDE IS IMPORTANT WHEN MODELING THE ATMOSPHERIC ABSORP-TION.	POSITION IS IMPORTANT FOR COORDINATION WITH GROUND DATA.	OUTSIDE AIR TEMPERA- TURE SHOULD BE SOMEWHAT CORRELATED WITH H2O & CO2 THERMAL EMISSIONS
INSTRUMENTS PRIME FUNCTION	MEASURE AURORALLY ENHANCED NO(∆V≈2).		REMOVE OH EMISSIONS FROM 2.8 mm DATA.	PROVIDE AN ABSOLUTE REFERENCE OF IONIZA- TION-PROMPT FLORESCENCE FOR SPATIAL AND TIME CORRELATIONS WITH THE 2.8 µm DATA.	TIME HISTORY MONITOR OF LARGE PORTION OF THE SKY.	PROVIDES TIME AND SPATIAL MONITOR OF AURORA.	PROVIDE ALTITUDE, POSITION AND OUTSIDE AIR TEMPERATURE OF MEASUREMENT PLATFORM.		
EXPECTED EMISSIONS	NO (ΔV=2), OH(ΔV=1), \$ POSSIBLE H <sub>2</sub> O \$ CO <sub>2</sub> .		OH(∆V=2) 5,3	N <sup>†</sup> (FIRST NEGA- TIME BAND)	VISIBLE AURORA				
INSTRUMENT	RADIOMETER (2.8µm REGION)	}	RADIOMETER (1.7µm REGION)	PHOTOMETER (3914 A)	ALL SKY CAMERA		NAVIGATION AIDS		

### MEASURED INFRARED ENHANCEMENTS

Significant enhancements of the atmospheric emissions in the 2.8 µm region were observed from the AFGL NKC-135A aircraft during the 1975 and 1976 ICECAP measurement series. These enhancements are believed to be increases in the nitric oxide emissions created by a relatively prompt process in an aurorally excited atmosphere, Stain et al. [1975], Hund et al. [1977].

A sample or overview of the measured data will be presented and discussed in detail in this section. Noise levels, response times, and fields of view are tabulated in Table 2 for the various measurement days. A significant amount of additional data which is similar to the data being discussed is cataloged in Appendix C.

The first extensive 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements that were observed by the aircraft during an aurorally excited atmosphere occurred on March 10, 1975. Figure 7 shows this data for the entire period of the flight. In contrast to this aurorally excited data is the data presented in Figure 8, measured March 15, 1975 during relatively quiet auroral conditions which shows the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions co-varying with the uncontaminated 1.7  $\mu m$  OH emissions. From top to bottom the figures present the aircraft latitude, the aircraft longitude, the air temperature at the aircraft altitude, the aircraft altitude, the 3914A ionization-prompt  $N_2^+$  emissions, the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions and the 1.7  $\mu m$  OH emissions.

The correlation between the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions and the 1.7  $\mu m$  OH emissions under non-auroral conditions shown in Figure 8 is further illustrated in Figure 9. The ratio of the two emissions remain almost constant for large variations in time, location and emission intensity. This indicates that the 2.8  $\mu m$  emissions primarily result from OH processes during non-auroral conditions, and apparently  $\rm H_2O$  emissions at 2.83  $\mu m$  are insignificant in the selected measurement band. If  $\rm H_2O$  emissions were significant, the ratio of the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions and the water free 1.7  $\mu m$  OH emissions would not remain constant for different OH intensity

TABLE 2. DATA CHARACTERISTICS AND MEASUREMENT CONDITIONS

.007 2.75 NA
.007** NA 6.0
22, 23, 24, .007** NA 6.0

ALL THREE INSTRUMENTS ARE CO-ALIGNED WITH IDENTICAL FIELDS OF VIEW.

\*\* NOISE LEVEL IS LIMITED BY THE DARK CURRENT OF THE PHOTOMULTIPLIER TUBE.

NOISE EQUIVALENT BANDWIDTH IS EQUAL TO  $1/(4 \times No. poles \times No. sec.)$ 

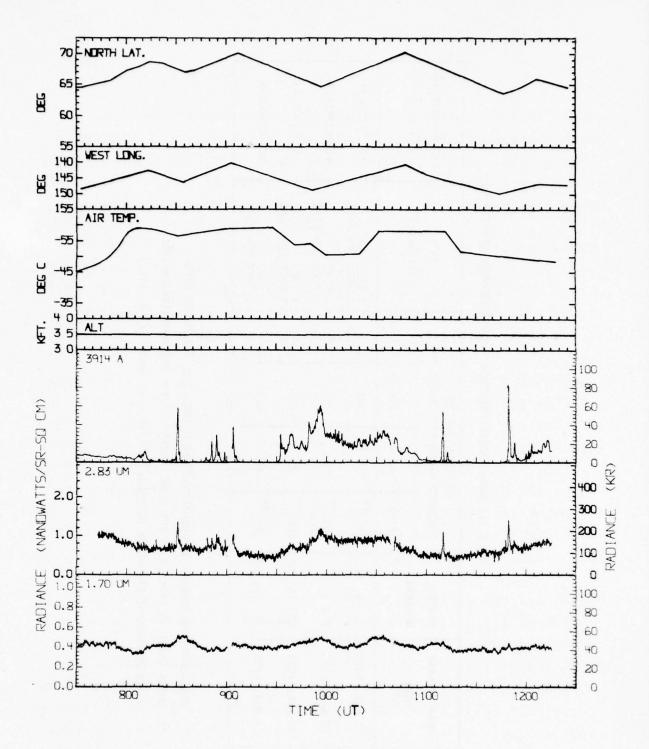


Figure 7. Measurements from aircraft-borne instrumentation for March 10, 1975, showing significant 2.83  $\mu\text{m}$  enhancements correlated with various auroral formations.

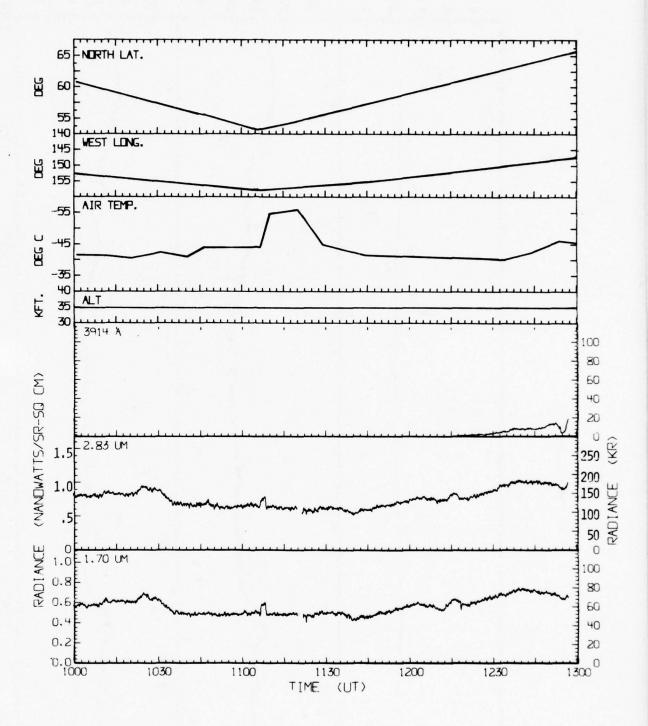
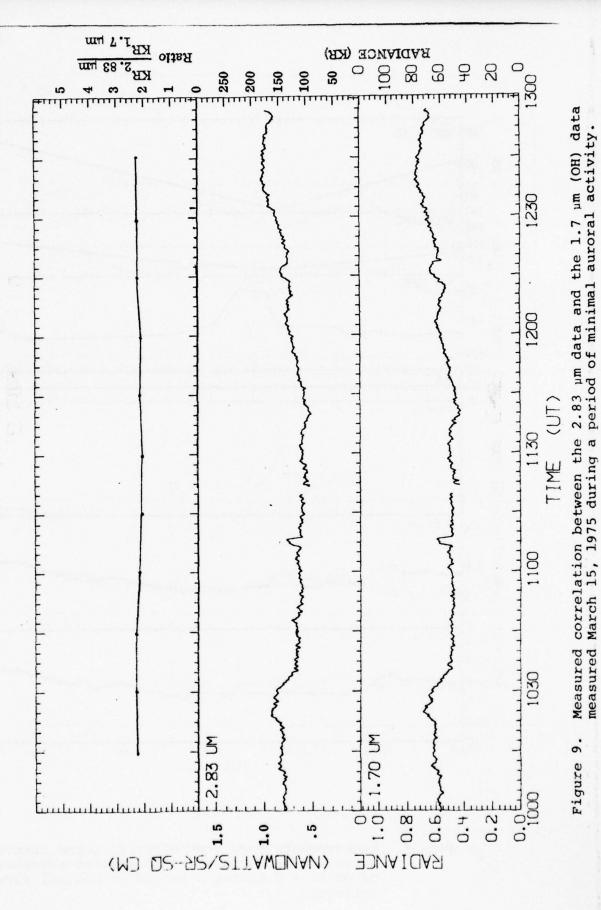


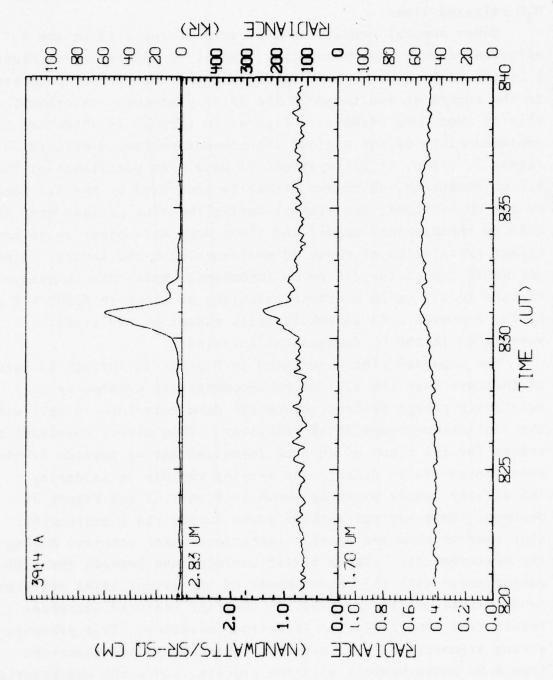
Figure 8. Measurements made from aircraft borne instrumentation on March 15, 1975 showing correlation of OH  $\Delta V$  = 2 during a period of minimal auroral activity.



levels. This would also indicate that the  $\rm H_2O$  emissions were not significant in the 1976 measurements at 2.94  $\mu m$ , since the selected spectral measurement band was even less contaminated by  $\rm H_2O$  emission lines.

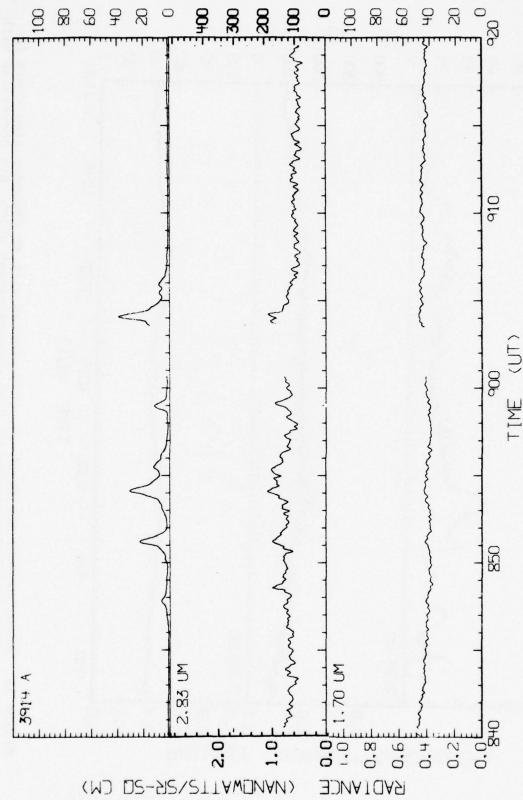
Under auroral conditions the ratio of the 2.83  $\mu m$  and 1.7  $\mu m$  emissions do not remain constant, and it is apparent from Figure 7 that 2.83  $\mu m$  enhancements occur, and they are directly related to the aurora as monitored by the 3914A photometer emissions. This is even more evident in Figures 10 through 14 which are time expanded plots of the various enhancement periods displayed in Figure 7. Also, it is important to note that variations of the 1.7  $\mu m$  emissions, which are primarily generated by the 5,3 band of the OH overtone, are minimal during the time periods when the 2.83  $\mu m$  enhancements occur, and there does not appear to be any direct correlation of these OH emissions with the aurora. Since one would expect the 2.8  $\mu m$  OH fundamental emissions to behave similar to 1.7  $\mu m$  OH overtone emissions as shown in Figures 8 and 9, the measured 2.83  $\mu m$  enhancements cannot be explained by variations in the OH fundamental emissions.

The expanded plots presented in Figures 10 through 14 tend to indicate that the 2.83 µm enhancements are created by a relatively prompt process, since the data correlate so well with the ionization-prompt 3914A emissions. This direct correlation exists for all types of auroral forms and during periods of time when the aurora is dynamic and varying rapidly in intensity. The all-sky camera pictures shown in Figure 15 and Figure 16 document these various auroral forms during the enhancements. also tend to show the dynamic variations which occurred during the measurements. These direct correlations between the 2.83 um enhancements with the enhancements of the prompt 3914A emissions tend to rule out the possibility that the measured increases result from long radiative life-time emissions. This presents a strong argument that the measured enhancements are generated from a NO photochemical emission process, since the characteristics of all other feasible sources do not fit the measured data.

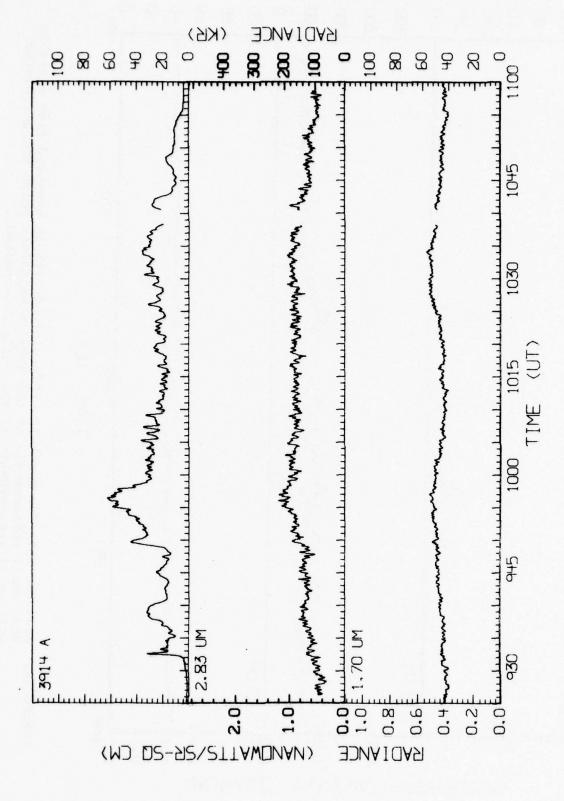


Measured data for March 10, 1975 plotted with an expanded time scale to illustrate the time and spatial correlation between the 2.83 µm emissions and the 3914A emissions while viewing an auroral arc. Figure 10.

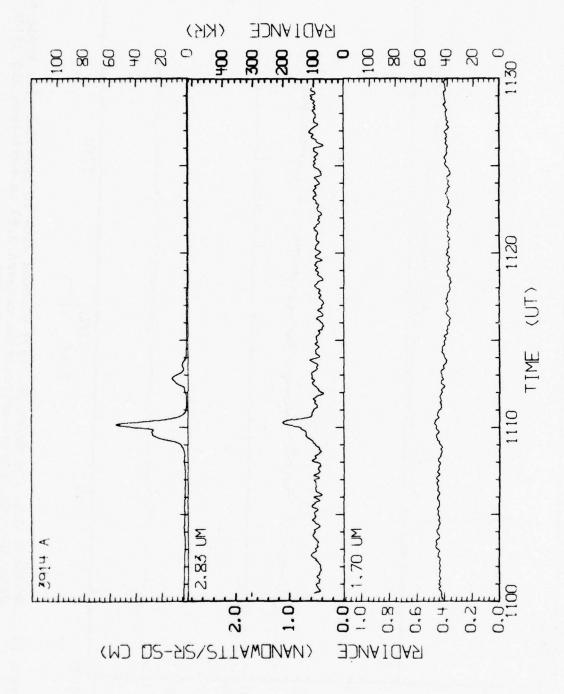




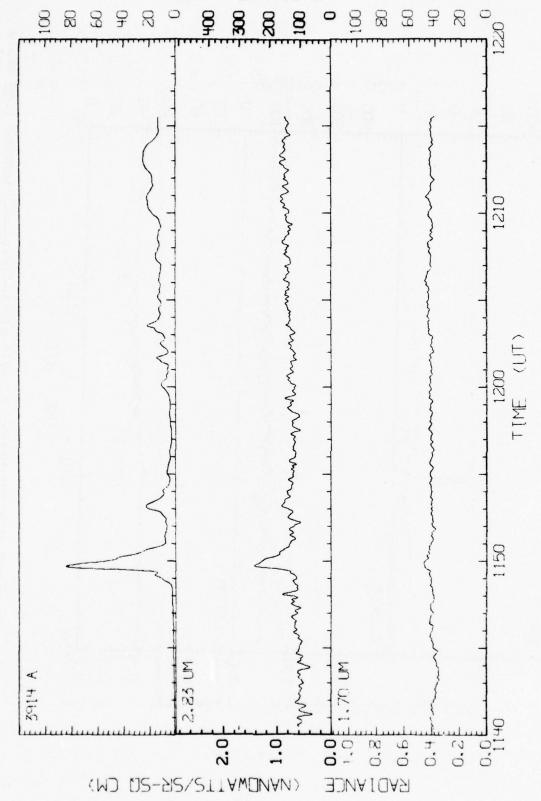
Measured data for March 10, 1975 plotted with an expanded time scale to show small enhancements of the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions which are correlated with small enhancements of the 3914A fluorescence. Figure 11.



Measured data for March 10, 1975 plotted with an expanded time scale to show detailed structure of 2.83  $\mu m$  enhancement which are correlated with a 3914A enhancement caused by a broad, diffused aurora. Figure 12.



Measured data for March 10, 1975 plotted with an expanded time scale to show time and spatial correlation between 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions and 3914A emissions while viewing a narrow auroral arc. Figure 13.

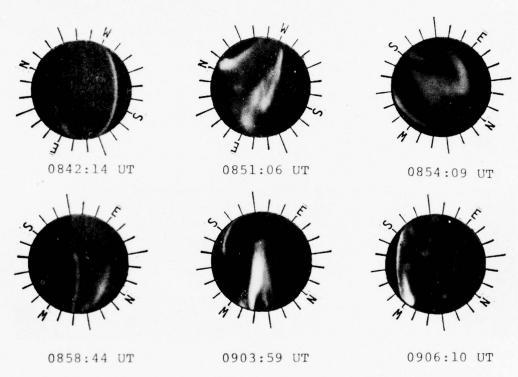


Measured data for March 10, 1975 plotted with an expanded time scale to show time and spatial correlation between 2.83 µm emissions and 3914A emissions while viewing an auroral patch. Figure 14.



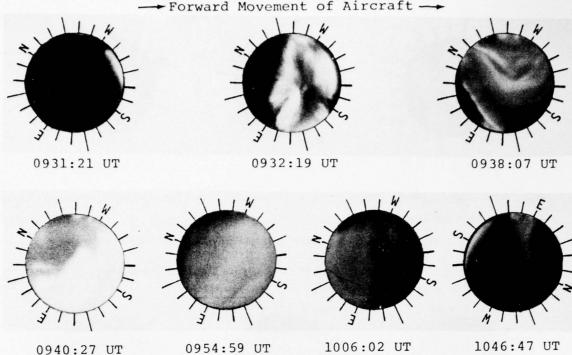
A. All sky camera pictures illustrating the auroral conditions during the measurement period shown in Figure 10. The measured enhancement was caused by the auroral arc at 0831 UT.

Forward Movement of Aircraft

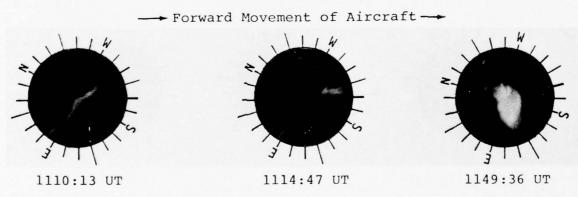


- B. All sky camera pictures illustrating the auroral conditions during the measurement period shown in Figure 11. The enhancements were caused by broad diffuse aurorae.
- Figure 15. All sky camera pictures taken March 10, 1975 by Photometrics Incorporated from the AFGL NKC-135 aircraft with a 160° FOV camera.

Forward Movement of Aircraft --



A. All sky camera pictures illustrating the various auroral forms and varying conditions for the measurement period shown in Figure 12.



B. All sky camera pictures illustrating the auroral enhancements and conditions for the measurement periods shown in Figure 13 and 14.

Figure 16. Continuation of all sky camera pictures taken March 10, 1975 with a 160°FOV camera viewing vertically from the AFGL NKC-135 aircraft.

Many additional flights verified that 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements are measurable above the OH background anytime the 3914A emissions are in excess of 20 KR. Some of the best examples of these measurements are given in Figures 17 through 25, which present the data measured in the 2.94  $\mu m$  spectral band for March 26 and March 7 of 1976. As in the data of March 10, 1975, the enhancements appear to be directly correlated with the 3914A fluorescence, but not with the 1.7  $\mu m$  OH emissions.

These extensive absolutely calibrated measurements should provide an excellent data base for analyses of infrared enhancements in the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  region under auroral conditions. A brief analysis of some of the data is presented in the next section. The analysis specifically addresses the problem of determining the photo-energy efficiencies for several of the measured enhancements.

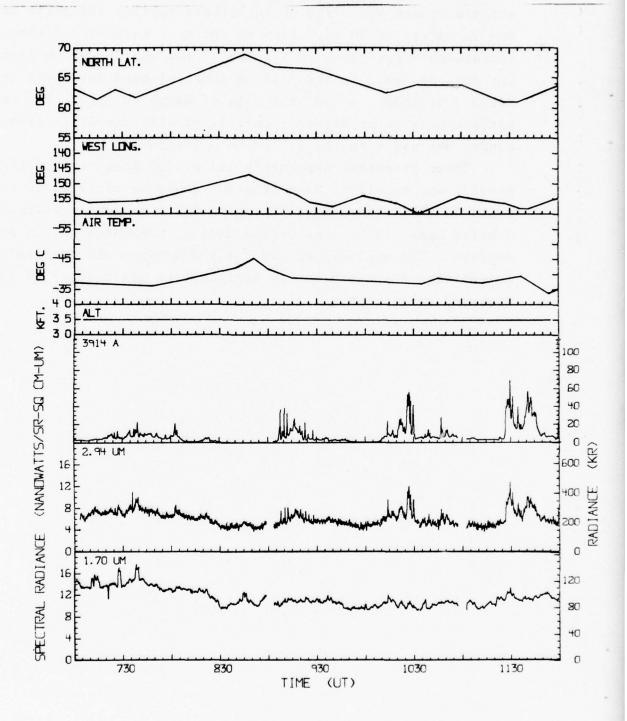
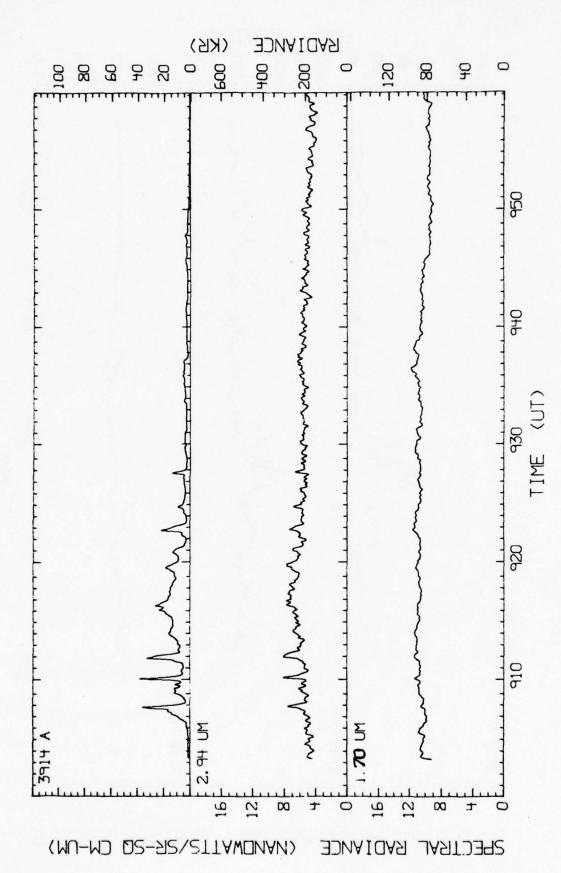
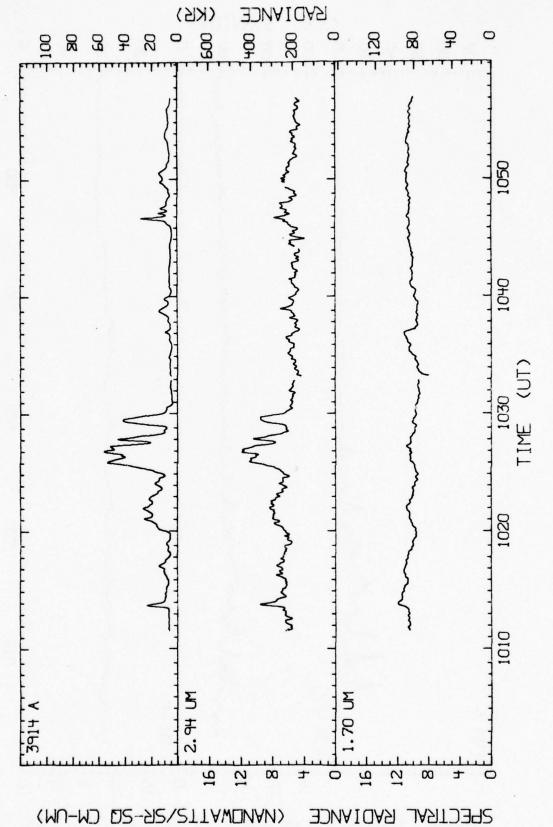


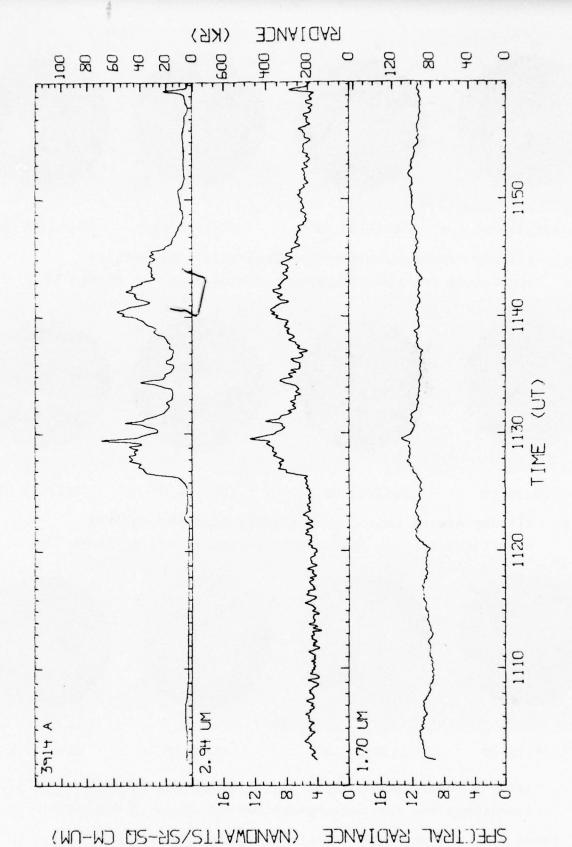
Figure 17. Measurements from aircraft-borne instrumentation for March 26, 1976, showing significant 2.94  $\mu m$  enhancements correlated with the aurora.



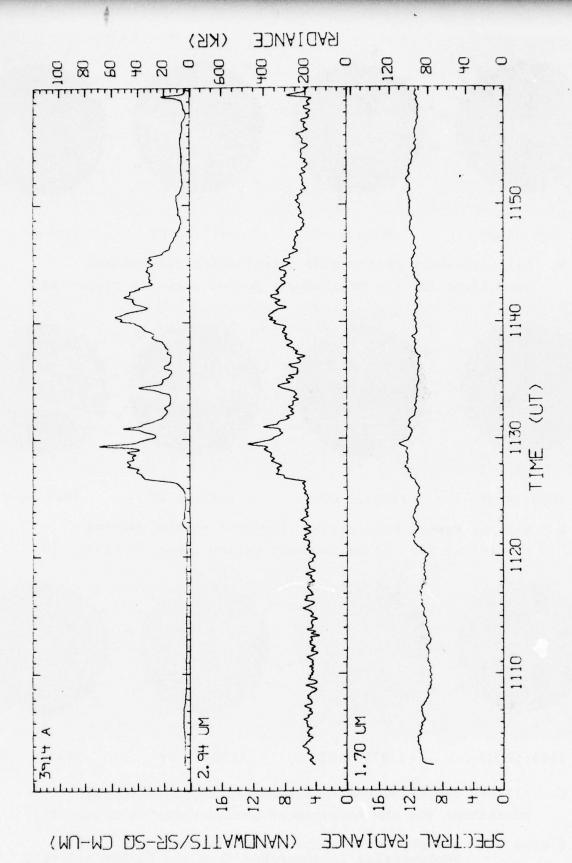
Measured data for March 26, 1976 plotted with an expanded time scale to show the detailed correlation between the  $2.94~\mu m$  emissions and the 3914 A emissions during rapidly varying auroral conditions. Figure 18.



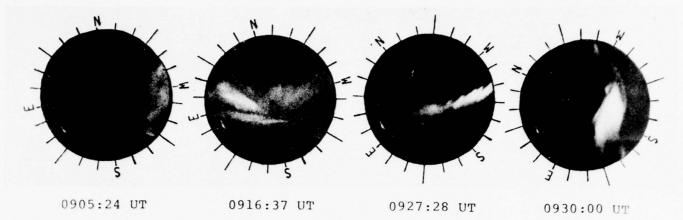
Measured data for March 26, 1976 showing the detailed structure and correlation of the 2.94 µm and 3914 A emissions while viewing an auroral arc. Figure 19.



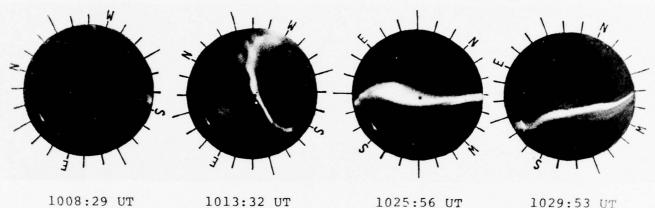
Measured data for March 26, 1976 showing the detailed correlation between the 2.94  $_{\mu\rm M}$  emissions and the 3914 A emissions during an auroral breakup. Figure 20.



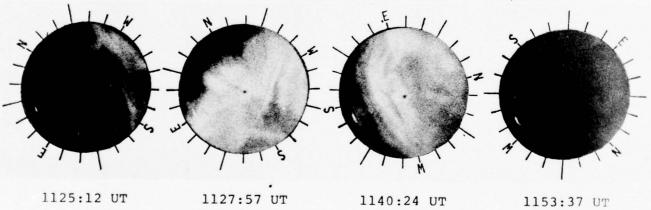
Measured data for March 26, 1976 showing the detailed correlation between the  $2.94~\mu m$  emissions and the 3914 A emissions during an auroral breakup. Figure 20.



A. All sky camera photographs illustrating the auroral conditions for the measurement period shown in Figure 18.



B. All sky camera photographs illustrating the auroral conditions for the measurement period shown in Figure 19.



C. All sky camera photographs illustrating the auroral conditions for the measurement period shown in Figure 20.

Figure 21. All sky camera pictures taken March 26, 1976 by Photometrics Incorporated from the KC-135 aircraft with a  $160^{\circ}$  FoV camera viewing vertically.

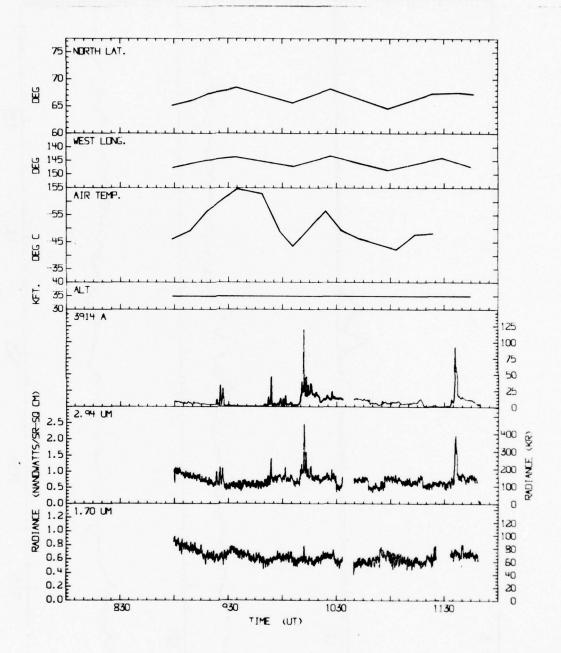
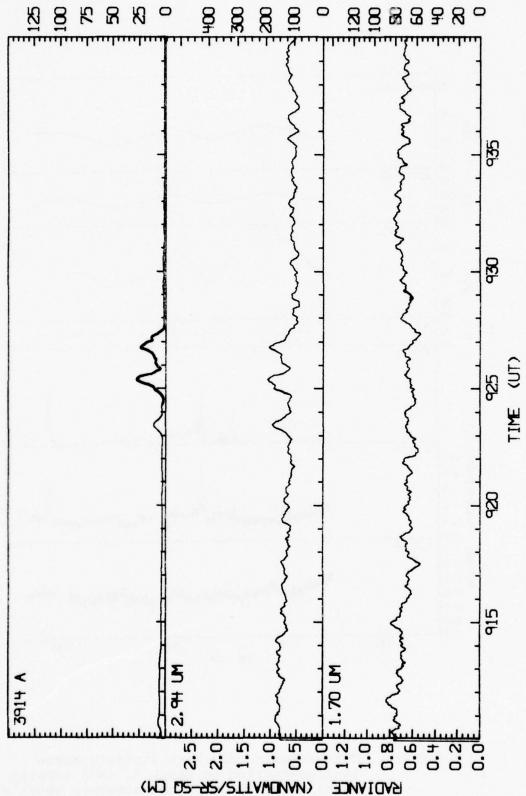
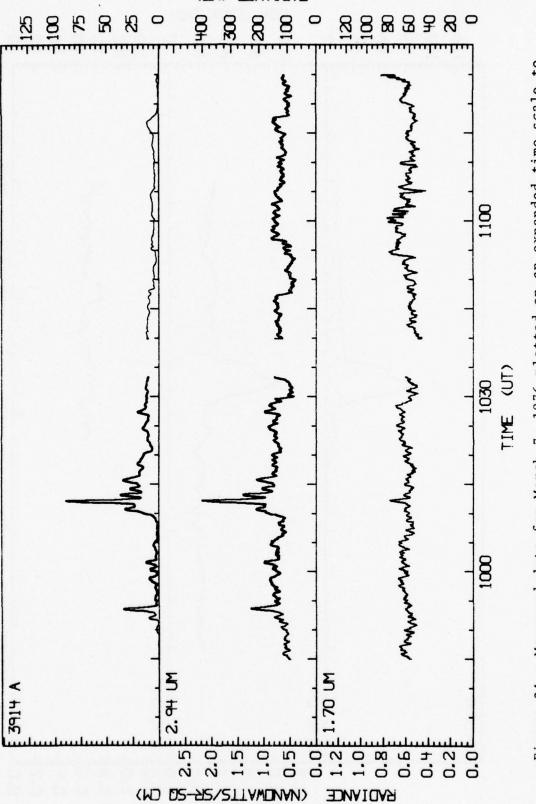


Figure 22. Measurements made with aircraft-borne instrumentation on March 7, 1976 showing significant infrared enhancements which are correlated with aurora.



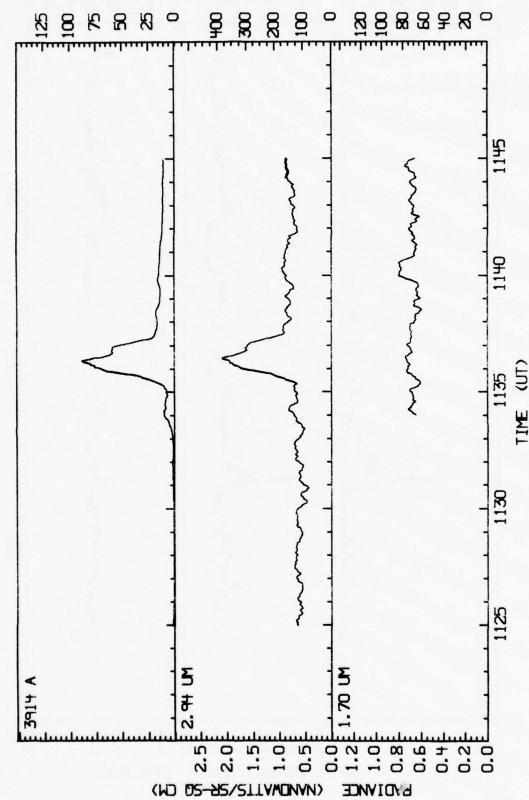
Measured data for March 7, 1976 plotted on an expanded time scale to show the correlation between the 2.94  $\mu m$  emissions and the 3914 A emissions during a period when small enhancements occurred. Figure 23.





Measured data for March 7, 1976 plotted on an expanded time scale to show the excellent spatial and time correlation between the 3914A emissions and the 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  emissions during rapidly fluctuating auroral conditions. Figure 24.





E Measured data for March 7, 1976 plotted on an expanded time scale to illustrate the correlation between the 3914 A emissions and the 2.94 emissions during a period when a large enhancement occurred. Figure 25.

## DATA ANALYSIS

Atmospheric emission enhancements in the 2.8  $\mu m$  region appear to occur whenever auroral activity exists. These enhancements are readily apparent in the data measured from the aircraft anytime the N $_2^+$ (3914A) emissions exceed 20 kiloRayleighs. Enhancements during less intense aurorae still exist, but they are not as apparent because they are relatively small in comparison to the OH background emissions and the instrument noise.

To provide a better understanding of the measured 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements, several analysis procedures and calculations were performed. The analyses include the following: (1) A detailed spatial and temporal correlation analysis which compares the 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements with the 3914A enhancements during various auroral intensities and conditions; (2) A linearity analysis comparing the measured intensities of the 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements with the intensities of the 3914A auroral monitor for various auroral conditions; and (3) Photo-energy efficiency calculations to determine what percentage of the total incoming auroral electron energy is emitted as photons in the 1976 2.94  $\mu m$  measurement band and what percentage is emitted as NO overtone photons assuming the enhancement is produced by a NO process.

The above named analyses are separately described below.

Spatial and Temporal Correlation Between 3914A(N $_2^+)$  Emissions and 2.8  $\mu m$  Enhancements

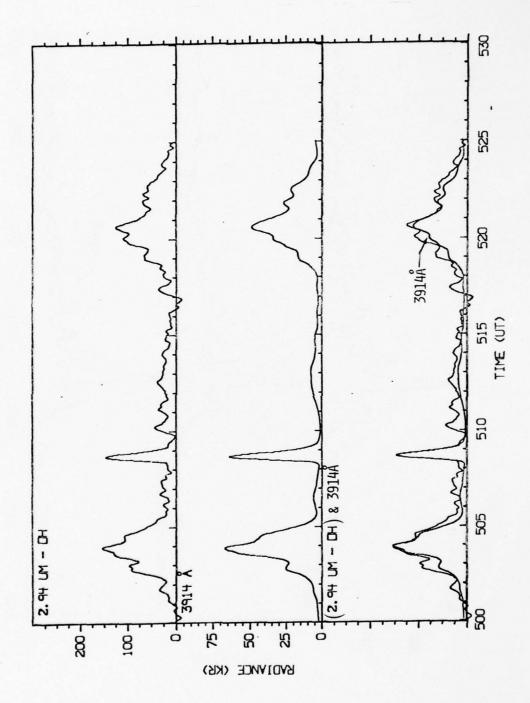
Spatial and temporal correlation studies between the measured  $3914A(N_2^+)$  emissions and the 2.8  $\mu m$  emissions during an aurorally enhanced period can be made by comparing the radiance versus time plots of the two emissions. However, before the comparison is made it is desirable to subtract or remove any background emissions from the data which are not correlated with the auroral enhancements. The 3914A backgrounds are typically less than 100 Rayleighs

which are insignificant in comparison to the levels measured during enhancement periods. Thus, no background subtraction is required for the 3914A emissions. On the other hand, the 2.8  $\mu m$  data includes emissions from OH fundamental sequences, which are not directly correlated with the aurora. These OH emissions should be directly related to the OH overtone emissions measured at 1.7  $\mu m$ , and therefore they can be removed from the 2.8  $\mu m$  data by subtracting a radiance level proportional to the radiance values measured at 1.7  $\mu m$ . The proportionality constant required for the subtraction can be calculated from a report by Bakeh [1976], which relates the amplitudes of the OH  $\Delta V$  = 1 bands to the amplitudes of the OH  $\Delta V$ =2 bands. Using Baker's results, Schummeha [1977] calculated the expected ratio between the radiance levels of two OH measurement bands for the 1976 aircraft data. The results are

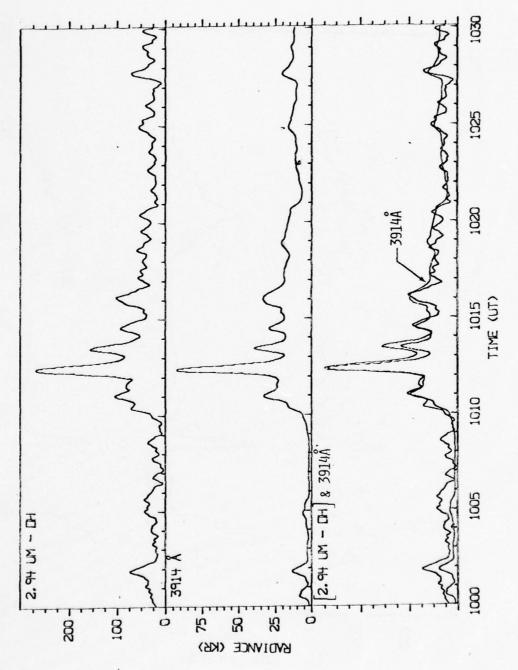
Rayleigh Radiance of OH  $\Delta V$  = 1, 2.94  $\mu$ m Band Rayleigh Radiance of OH  $\Delta V$  = 2, 1.7  $\mu$ m Band = 2.2

If one ratios the measured radiances of the 2.94  $\mu m$  band and the 1.7  $\mu m$  band for the 1976 TCECAP data during quiet auroral conditions, values ranging from 1.7 to 2.1 are obtained. This is in good agreement with the calculated value which indicates that OH emissions can account for the entire background level. Any differences and variations between the calculated and measured ratios can be accounted for by accuracy limitations of the instrumentation calibrations and the measurement techniques. Therefore, a feasible method of subtracting the OH background from the 2.8  $\mu m$  data is to subtract an amount proportional to the 1.7  $\mu m$  data which will reduce the 2.8  $\mu m$  radiance to zero during quiet auroral conditions. This method was used for our analyses.

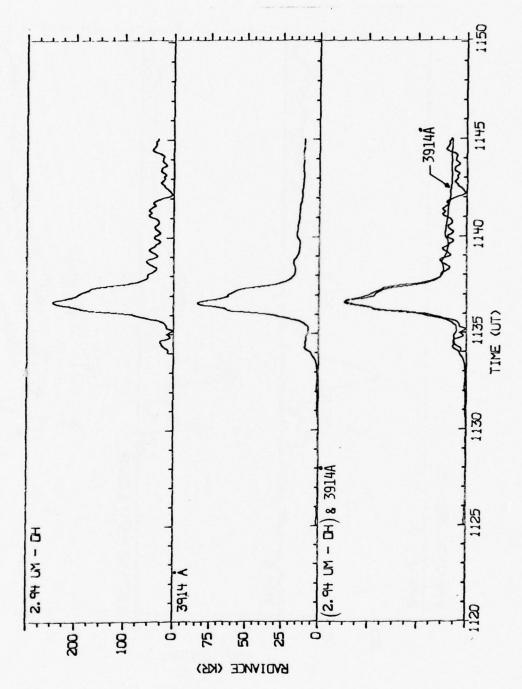
Once the OH subtraction is completed, comparisons can more readily be made between the aurorally enhanced emissions in the 2.8  $\mu m$  region and the 3914A,  $N_2^+$  emissions. Figures 26 through 32 present data measured March 3, March 7, March 8, and March 26, 1976 which have the OH emissions subtracted from the total



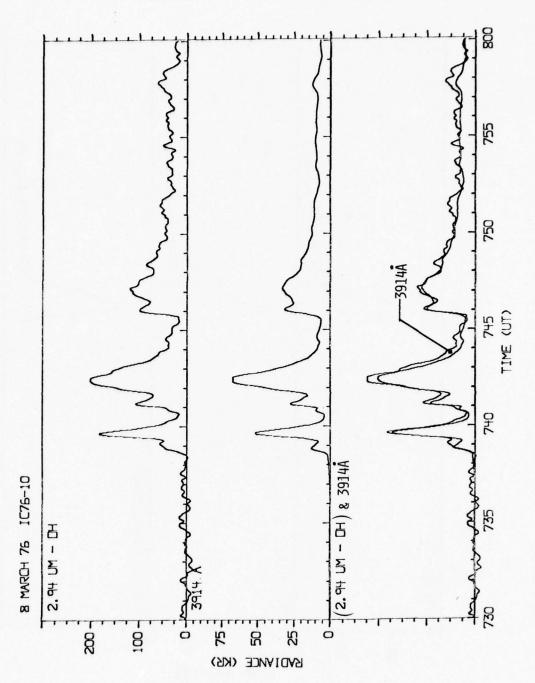
Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu m$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 3, 1976. Figure 26.



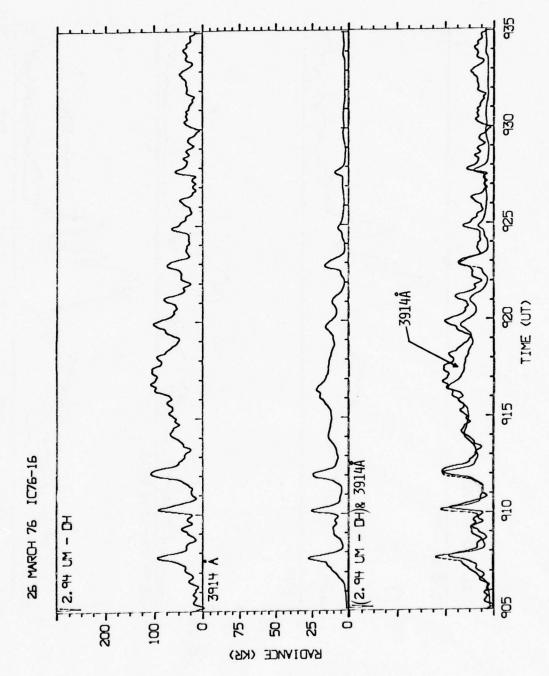
Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 7, 1976 between 1000 and 1030 UT. Figure 27.



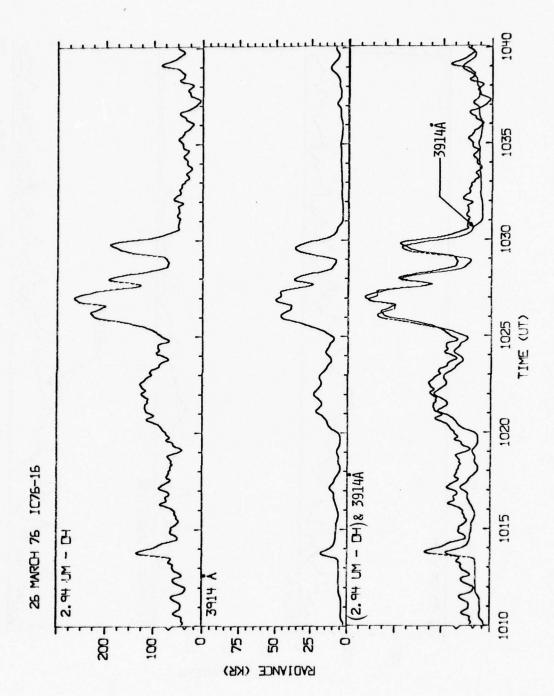
Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 7, 1976 between 1120 and 1150 UT. Figure 28.



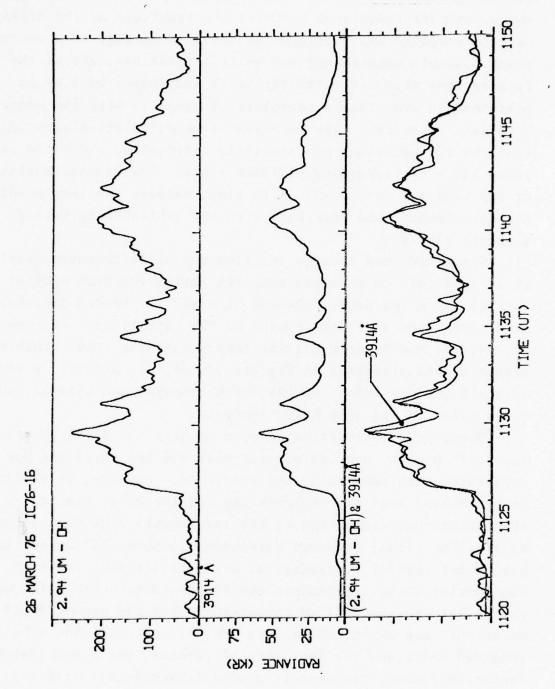
Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancement measured March 8, 1976. Figure 29.



Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 26, 1976 between 0905 and 0935 UT. Figure 30.



Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 26, 1976 between 1010 and 1040 UT. Figure 31.



Temporal and spatial comparisons of 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  and 3914A enhancements measured March 26, 1976 between 1120 and 1150 UT. Figure 32.

2.94  $\mu m$  emissions. The corresponding 3914A emissions are also shown, and for comparison purposes the magnitude of the 3914A data is rescaled and overlayed on the 2.94  $\mu m$  data on a separate graph. Within measurement and noise limitations, all of the figures show that the characteristics and shapes of 2.94  $\mu m$  enhancements are closely correlated temporally with the prompt  $N_2^+(3914A)$  emissions. The excellent time correlation also implies that the two emissions are spatially correlated, since the time scale has a corresponding position scale. The viewing position of the measured data varies with time, because the instruments are hard mounted and boresighted on the continuously moving aircraft platform.

Since time and viewing position are simultaneously varying, it is difficult to separate temporal variations from spatial variations in the data. However, the all-sky camera pictures do give some clues as to the source of the variations. Figures 33, 34, 35, and 36 show all-sky camera pictures taken concurrent with the data presented in Figures 27, 30, 31, and 32. A study of these pictures confirms that both temporal and spatial variations exist in the data being analyzed.

Since good correlation exists between the 3914A data and the 2.94  $\mu m$  data, one can surmize that the two emissions are correlated both temporally and spatially. However, it should be remembered that the analysis and conclusion is limited by the resolution characteristics of the instruments used for the measurements. The actual temporal resolution is about 15 sec and the horizontal spatial resolution at a 100 km altitude is 14 km. Considering these limitations and the measured correlation which exists between the 2.94  $\mu m$  enhancements and the prompt 3914A emissions, one can conclude that the half lives of the 2.94  $\mu m$  enhanced emissions are less than 15 seconds, and a considerably faster instrument response is needed to accurately determine the exact half life.

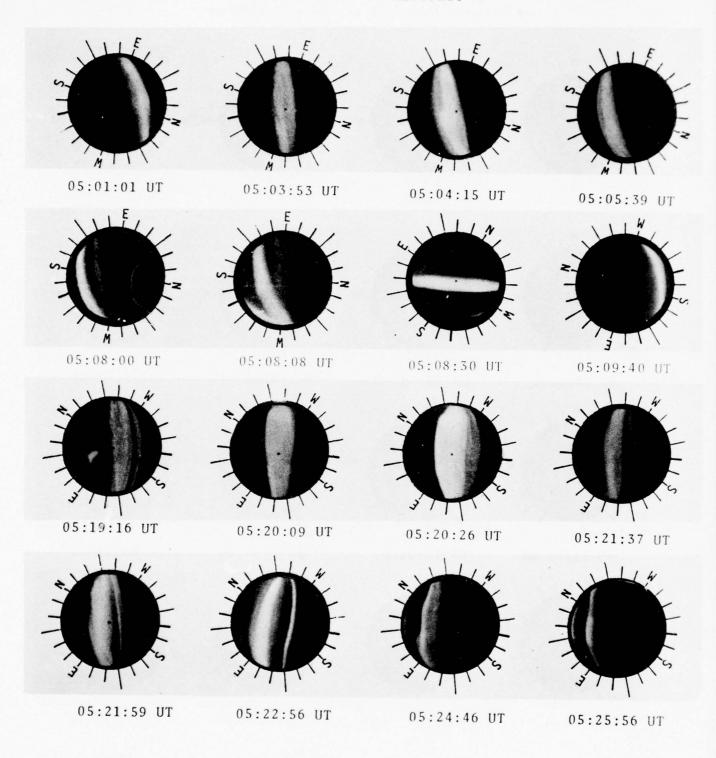


Figure 33. All Sky Camera pictures showing auroral conditions during periods when infrared enhancements were measured on 3 March 1976.

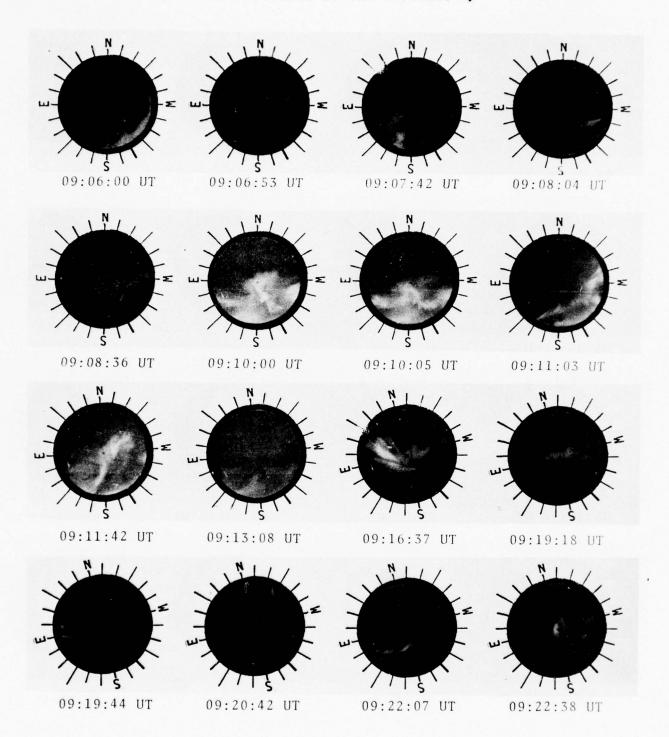


Figure 34. All sky camera pictures showing auroral conditions on March 26, 1976 for time periods corresponding to the data presented in Figure 30.

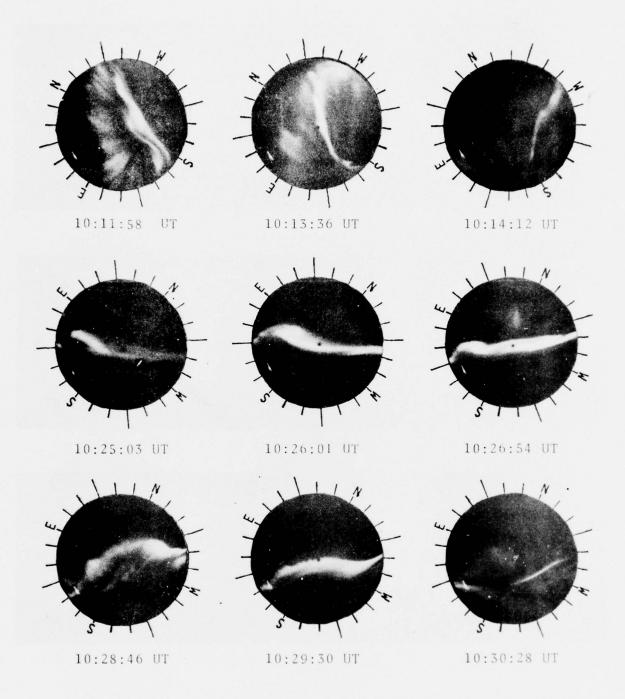


Figure 35. All sky camera pictures showing auroral conditions on March 26, 1976 for time periods corresponding to the data presented in Figure 31.

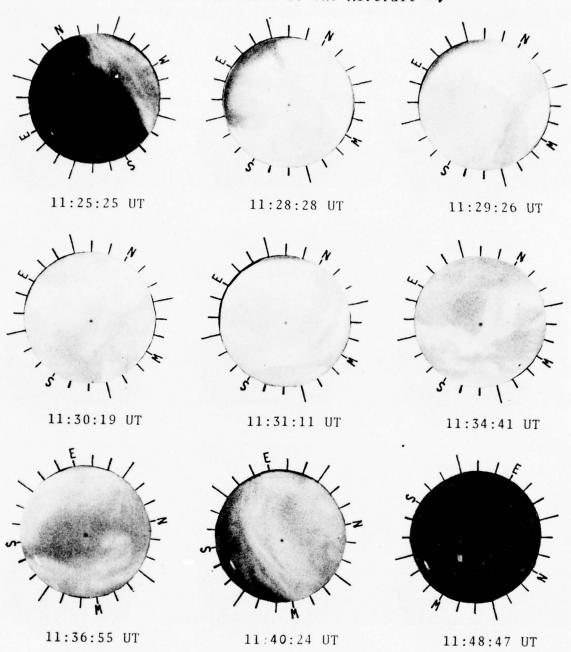


Figure 36. All sky camera pictures showing auroral conditions on March 26, 1976 for time periods corresponding to the data presented in Figure 32.

## Linearity Studies

Since the enhanced emissions at 2.8 µm are directly correlated with the visible aurora as monitored by a 3914A photometer, further analyses were performed to investigate the relationship between the magnitude of the 2.8 µm enhancements and the incoming auroral energy. A study was performed to determine whether the amplitude of the enhancement portion of the 2.8 µm emissions are linearly proportional to the 3914A emissions for various auroral conditions. Since the 3914A emissions provide an approximate monitor of the total incoming auroral electron energy, the study also indicates whether the 2.8 µm enhancements vary linearly with the incoming auroral energy for various auroral intensities and conditions. The linearity study was made using the data presented in Figures 26 through 32 which were measured on March 3,7,8 and 26, 1976 during various levels of auroral excitation. The study was performed by directly comparing the amplitudes of the 3914A emissions with the amplitudes of the 2.94 µm enhancements at times corresponding to a variety of auroral excitation levels. The results are given in Table 3, where the comparison is accomplished by taking the ratio of the kiloRayleigh amplitudes of the two emissions.

It should be noted from Table 3 that the ratios between the 3914A emissions and the 2.94  $\mu m$  emissions are not constant for the various auroral conditions. This indicates that the 2.94  $\mu m$  emissions are not linearly proportional to the 3914A emissions. Based on the premise that the 3914A emissions are proportional, within limits, to the total incoming auroral energy, one can also surmize that the 2.94  $\mu m$  enhancements are not linearly proportional to the total auroral energy. Explanations as to the cause of these non-linearities are not readily apparent from the presented data. However, one possible explanation is that the intensities of the enhanced 2.8  $\mu m$  emissions are affected by variations in the penetration depth into the atmosphere of the auroral electrons. The Chatanika

Table 3. Comparisons of the 2.94  $\mu m$  Enhancements and 3914A Emissions.

Date/Mission	Time (UT)	3914A Radiance (kR)	Ratio * kR <sub>(2.94 μm)</sub> kR <sub>(3914A)</sub>
3 Mar 76 IC 76-6	0503:45 0508:40 0520:30	67 65 49	2.313 2.23 2.55
7 Mar 76 IC 76-9	1012:20 1013:30 1016:00 1136.35	92 40 34 84	2.95 3.875 2.94 3.04
8 Mar 76 IC 76-10	0739:40 0742.25 0746.05	52 68 33	3.42 3.01 3.18
26 Mar 76 IC 76-16	0907.40 0912:00 1027:00 1028:00 1129:40 1140:25	27.5 25 50 37 59 52	3.45 4.2 5.2 5.2 4.4 4.03

<sup>\*</sup>The kiloRayleigh value for the 2.94  $\mu m$  emission has the OH background removed leaving only the enhancement portion.

radar measurements outlined in Appendix B may provide some electron density and altitude data which can be used to partially check this explanation. As of yet these measurements have not been reduced, and therefore an analysis will not be made at this time. However, such an analysis is warranted and additional more refined experiments should be performed to study altitude effects.

## Photo-Energy Efficiency of Aurorally Enhanced 2.94 µm Emissions

Since the measured enhancements in the 2.8  $\mu m$  region are directly correlated with an aurorally excited atmosphere, it is of interest to use the measured data to calculate the percentage of the incoming auroral electron energy that is emitted as photon energy in the 2.8  $\mu m$  measurement band. Also, since it is plausible that the enhancements could result from overtone nitric oxide emissions, it is of value to determine the percentage of auroral energy that would be radiated as overtone nitric oxide photons. The measured 3914A emission and background subtracted 2.94  $\mu m$  emission presented in Figures 26 through 32 provide a good data base for these calculations.

To calculate the photo-energy efficiency of the 2.94  $\mu\text{m}$  enhancements, we start with the following expression:

Photo Energy Efficiency (2.94 
$$\mu$$
m) =  $\frac{eV(2.94 \mu m)}{eV(incident)} \times 100\%$  (1)

In this expression, the incoming energy in electron volts,  $eV_{(incident)}$ , can be determined from the 3914A data. The conversion is accomplished by multiplying the measured 3914A photons by the number of ion pairs generated per photon and then multiplying the result by the number of electron volts absorbed per ion pair. Baker and Pendleton [1976] indicate that 18 ion pairs are formed per 3914A photon at 100 km, and Tarr et al.[1974]

indicates that 34 eV are absorbed per ion pair produced. Using these values we obtain the following expression for the total incident auroral energy:

$$eV_{\text{(incident)}} = Photons_{(3914A)} \times \frac{18 \text{ ion pairs}}{3914A \text{ photon}} \times \frac{34eV}{\text{ion pair}}$$

= 
$$612 \times \text{Photons}_{(3914A)}$$
 (2)

where Photons (3914A) equals the number of photons produced by the  $N_2^+(0,0)$  first negative band which is measured with a 3914A photometer.

Substituting Equation (2) into Equation (1) we get

Photo-Energy Efficiency<sub>(2.94 
$$\mu$$
m)</sub> = .163  $\frac{\text{eV}(2.94 \ \mu\text{m})}{\text{Photons}(3914\text{A})}$  (3)

The 2.94  $\mu m$  emission energy, eV  $_{(2.94~\mu m)}$ , can be determined from the 2.94  $\mu m$  data by multiplying the enhanced portion of the measured photons by the energy per photon, and then dividing the result by the atmospheric transmittance. Thus,

eV<sub>(2.94 
$$\mu$$
m)</sub> =  $\frac{hc}{\lambda}$  x Photons<sub>(2.94  $\mu$ m)</sub>  $\div \tau$ <sub>(2.94  $\mu$ m)</sub>

$$= \frac{1.234}{\lambda^{T}} \times \text{Photons}_{(2.94 \mu m)}$$
 (4)

where Photons (2.94  $_{\mu m})$  is equal to the measured photons of the 2.94  $_{\mu m}$  enhancements,  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of the emission, and  $\tau$  is the atmospheric transmittance from the emission altitude to the aircraft platform, at 2.94  $_{\mu m}$ .

Substituting Equation (4) into Equation (3) gives the following:

Photo-Energy Efficiency (2.94 
$$\mu$$
m) =  $\frac{.201}{\lambda \tau} \times \frac{\text{Photons}(2.94 \ \mu\text{m})}{\text{Photons}(3914A)}$  (5)

This expression can be equally stated as follows:

Photo-Energy Efficiency (2.94 
$$\mu$$
m) =  $\frac{.201}{\lambda \tau} \times \frac{R(2.94 \ \mu\text{m})}{R(3914A)}$  (6)

where R<sub>(2.94 µm)</sub> is the measured enhancement radiance in Rayleighs, and R<sub>(3914A)</sub> is the measured radiance of the 3914A,  $N_2^+(0,0)$  first negative band in Rayleighs.

Using Equation (6) and the measured data in Figures 26 through 33, the percentage of the incoming auroral energy that is radiated as 2.94  $\mu m$  photons was calculated for various measurement periods. The calculated efficiencies are listed in Table 4. An atmospheric transmittance of .965 was calculated from the Lowtran II atmospheric model for an Arctic winter for a vertical path between 10.5 and 100 km, and this value was incorporated in the calculations.

Assuming that the 2.94 µm enhancements are generated by first overtone nitric oxide, Schummers [1977] calculates the percentage of auroral electron energy that is radiated as nitric oxide overtone photons. Basically, his calculations use the same process described above except he uses a synthetic nitric oxide spectrum, which was generated using a rotational temperature of  $220^{\circ}$ K and a vibrational temperature of  $5400^{\circ}$ K, to predict that 40% of the overtone nitric oxide radiation is included in the 2.94 µm spectral measurement band. Therefore, the measured 2.94 µm radiance must be multiplied by 2.5 to determine the radiance of the entire nitric oxide first overtone band. Knowing this, one can write the following expression for calculating the

TABLE 4. Photo-Energy Efficiencies of Aurorally Excited 2.94 µm Emissions. Ratio % of Auroral Energy  $R_{(2.94 \mu m)}$ Radiated as Photons Time UT Date/Mission R<sub>(3914A)</sub> in the 2.94  $\mu m$ Measurement Band 26 Mar 1976 0905 - 0935 4.3 .305 IC 76-16 5.2 1010 - 1040 .368 1120 - 1150 4.3 .305 0730 - 0800 8 Mar 1976 3.3 .234 IC 76-10 1000 - 1030 7 Mar 1976 3.0 .213 IC 76-9 1120 - 1150 3.0 .213 3 Mar 1976 0500 - 0530 2.3 .163 IC 76-6

photo-energy efficiency of the nitric oxide overtone:

Photo-Energy Efficiency (NO) = 
$$\frac{.201}{\lambda \tau} \times \frac{2.5 \times R(2.94 \mu m)}{R(3914A)}$$

Based on this expression and a  $\lambda$  equal to 2.9  $\mu$ m, which is the center of the nitric oxide band (See Figure 4), photo-efficiencies ranging from .41 to .93% for the 1976 ICECAP measurements were calculated. These calculated values for seven measurement periods are given in Table 5. The values are in good agreement with those calculated by Schummers [1977].

The average of the calculated nitric oxide percentages presented in Table 5 is .65%. This is less than the lower limit of 1% which was presented by Hurd et al. [1977] for the data measured from the ICECAP A10.205-2 Paiute rocket launched March 24, 1973. However, this difference is not large considering our measurements show that variations as large as a factor of 2.3 occur for different auroral conditions.

TABLE 5. Photo-Energy Efficiencies of Overtone NO Emissions.

Date / Mission	Time UT	Ratio R(2.94 µm) R(3914A)	<pre>% of Auroral Electron Energy Radiated as NO Overtone Photons</pre>
26 Mar 1976 IC 76-16	0905 - 0935 1010 - 1040 1120 - 1150	4.3 5.2 4.3	.77 .93 .77
8 Mar 1976 IC 76-10	0730 - 0800	3.3	. 59
7 Mar 1976 IC 76-9	1000 - 1030 1120 - 1150	3.0 3.0	.54
3 Mar 1976 IC 76-6	0500 - 0530	2.3	.41

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### APPENDIX A

### INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT PLATFORM

The electro-optical instruments, which were used for the measurements reported herein, include two near infrared radiometers, two 3914A photometers, and an all sky camera. A discussion of the measurement platform and each instrument is presented in this appendix.

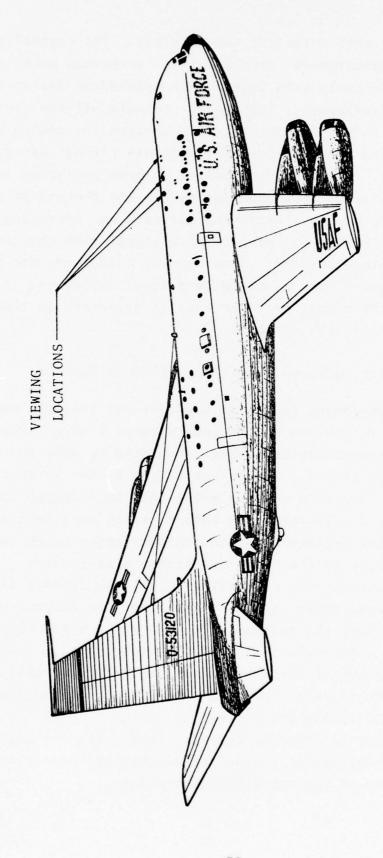
### Measurement Platform

The instruments were operated from the AFGL Infrared Flying Laboratory. The flying laboratory is a modified Air Force NKC-135A aircraft which is similar in design and size to a Boeing 707 commercial aircraft.

All of the instruments viewed vertically out of the aircraft, and the center position of their fields of view were coaligned. Figure A.1 shows a pictorial view of the aircraft and the locations of the viewing windows.

The movement of the aircraft provides a means of spatially scanning the sky with the instruments. The scanning motion is predictable from the motion and maneuvers of the aircraft, since the instrumentation is mounted in a stationary manner to the flying platform. For the ICECAP measurement program, straight and level flights were maintained during the major portion of the measurement periods. Thus, the rate and direction of the scanning can be determined from the aircraft speed and heading, which is given in Appendix D for each of the reported measurements.

The aircraft provides a very convenient platform to accomplish auroral and airglow measurements. It has some definite advantages over ground sites, since it provides a means of selecting the viewing position of the instrumentation and a means of avoiding low altitude clouds and water vapor absorption. Also data measurements can be continuously performed for periods up



Pictorial of the AFGL Flying Laboratory, NKC-135A, Serial Number 53120, showing the optical viewing locations which were used. Figure A.1.

to 10 hrs without refueling the aircraft. The capability of performing measurements over long time intervals makes the platform more desirable than rocket-borne platforms for certain types of measurements. Typically, standard off the shelf visible instruments such as photometers and cameras can conveniently be mounted and operated from the aircraft without any major difficulties. However, measurement systems operating in the infrared region are more complex, since the thermal emissions of an instrument mounted inside the aircraft and operating at ambient temperature  $(300^{\circ}\text{K})$  can produce more signal than the atmospheric emissions being measured. Thus special techniques are necessary to discriminate, remove, or balance these emissions. A discussion of these instrumentation techniques is presented in the following two sections of this Appendix.

# Near Infrared Radiometer, 2.75 to 3.04 µm

The measurement technique used for our infrared measurements in the 2.75 to 3.04 µm region incorporated a warm radiometer and a liquid nitrogen cooled chopper developed by AFGL and USU, Huppi et al., [1974]. The layout of the system is shown in Figure A.2. The cold chopper modulates the atmospheric emission and provides a cold reference source; thus, an alternating signal is seen by the radiometer as the chopper spins which is due almost entirely to the emissions from the atmosphere. The chopper is mounted outside the aircraft with all the windows and the radiometer components inside. Therefore, the thermal emissions from the windows and radiometer components are not chopped, and they do not contribute to the alternating signal. However, the thermal emission of the chopper does introduce a small contribution to the alternating signal, but it is insignificant in comparison to atmospheric emissions in the 2.75 to 3.0 µm region if the chopper is properly cooled. Therefore, the magnitude of the alternating optical signal is essentially proportional to the intensity of the atmospheric emissions.

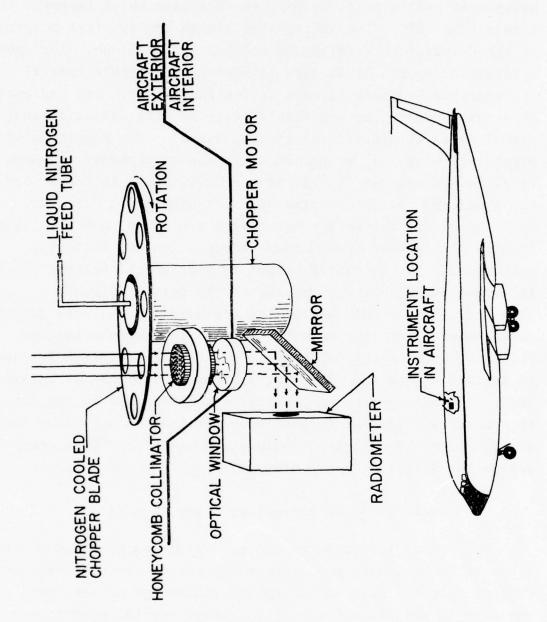


Figure A.2. Liquid nitrogen cooled chopper and radiometer system.

The radiometer collects the optical signal and focuses it onto a cold-filtered InSb detector. The cold filter reduces the background photon noise seen by the detector which improves its detectivity (D\*). The filter also limits the spectral response of the detector to wavelengths shorter than 3.04  $\mu m$ . The spectral measurement region is further limited by selectable optical interference bandpass filters in the radiometer. The radiometer's detector converts the spectrally filtered alternating optical signal to an alternating electrical signal. The magnitude of this electrical signal is proportional to the atmospheric emission level being measured, but it is typically small in comparison to the broadband noise generated by the radiometer's detector.

The signal can be extracted from the noise, however, through the use of standard synchronous demodulation and filtering techniques. The resulting output is a dc signal voltage which is proportional to the intensity of the optical signal.

During the ICECAP series the measured signals were recorded on an Ampex CP100 tape recorder before the demodulation and filtering process was performed. This leaves complete freedom to set and change the effective instrument response at a later data. The data reduction process is accomplished in the laboratory using a Princeton Applied Research Lock-In Amplifier for the demodulation and a Digital Equipment Corporation PDP-8 computer system for filtering, data storage, processing and plotting.

Near Infrared Radiometer, 1.0 to 1.75 µm

The second infrared radiometer, which was used for measurements at  $1.7~\mu\text{m}$ , does not require the use of the elaborate cold chopper system. Instead a complete radiometer system that operates at ambient temperatures, except for the detector, has been developed by Huppi [1977]. The optical layout of this system is shown in Figure A.3.

The basic lens system consists of a 2-inch diameter, f/2.5 objective lens followed by a 1-inch diameter f/.7 field lens. In addition, the detector is immersed (deposited) on a third lens of

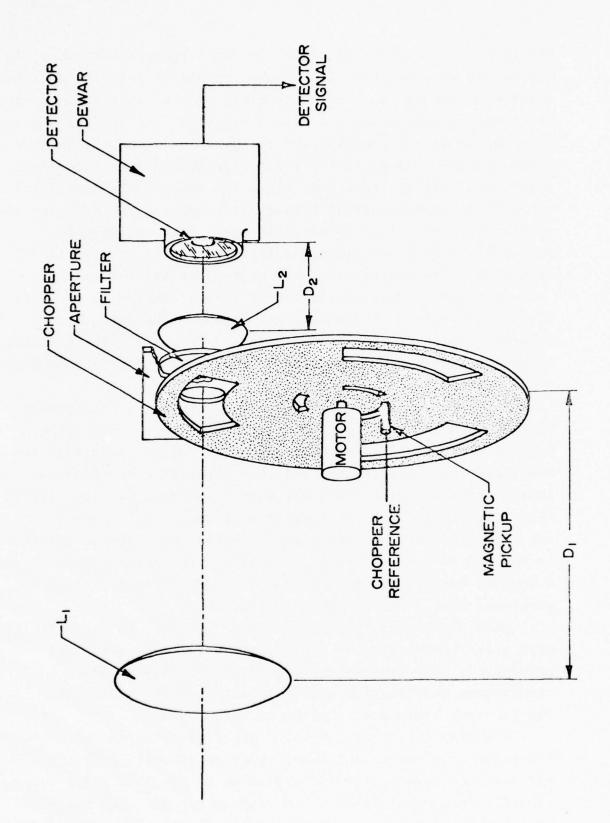


Figure A.3 Optical layout of 1.0 to 1.75  $\mu m$  radiometer.

hemispherical shape to minimize the required detector size. In the layout the objective lens images points at infinity on the aperture plane which defines the field of view of the radiometer. Since the objective lens is relatively slow, its imaging properties can be made extremely good to guarantee a sharply defined field of view. However, the field lens does not require these same sharp imaging qualities, since its function is to collect the optical signal passing through the aperture and condense it onto a detector. As a result, the field lens can be made relatively fast which minimizes the required detector size and maintains a low equivalent f number for the optical system.

As shown in Figure A.3, the radiometer design incorporates an optical chopper to modulate the signal. The chopper is located within .025 inches of the aperture plane. The standard chopper modulates the complete aperture on a fifty percent duty cycle basis.

After the modulation is performed, the signal is spectral-band limited by an optical interference filter. This filter defines the spectral response of the instrument and limits the modulated thermal emissions that reach the detector from the instrument structures and background. As shown by Huppi [1977], this filter can limit the thermal backgrounds to levels that are insignificant in comparison to typical atmospheric emissions in the 1.0 to 1.75  $\mu$ m region. This is also apparent in Figure A.4 which compares typical atmospheric OH overtone and  $O_2(^1\Delta_g)(0,0)$  emissions with  $300^{\circ}$ K blackbody emissions.

Once the optical signal has been filtered, it is collected onto a thermoelectrically cooled detector and is ready for processing. The processing is performed by the standard synchronous demodulation and filtering techniques discussed in the previous radiometer section of this appendix.

The sensitivity and noise of the radiometer can be characterized by its noise equivalent spectral radiance NESR which is the radiance level required to produce a signal to noise ratio of one. The actual NESR for the radiometer has been measured at 9.3 x  $10^{-12} \text{w/cm}^2 \text{sr}$  µm for a .05 µm optical bandwidth, a  $10^{\circ}$ 

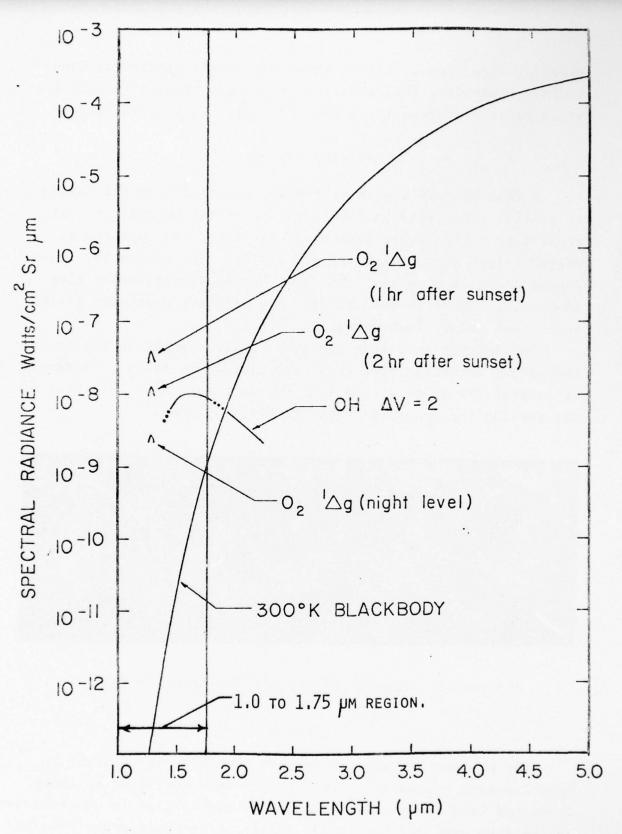


Figure A.4. Some typical upper atmospheric night airglow emission intensities compared with emissions from a 300°K blackbody.

field of view, and a .025 HZ noise equivalent electrical bandwidth. Typically, this sensitivity is more than sufficient for atmospheric measurements in the 1.2 to 1.7  $\mu$ m spectral region.

# All-Sky Camera

A 16mm all-sky camera system was operated from the aircraft to provide wide field of view coverage of the overall auroral conditions. The camera system was developed and operated by PhotoMetrics, Inc., Końsky et al. [1975]. The system has a 160 degree field of view and takes photographs at selectable time intervals. The film used for the measurements presented in this report was Kodak black and white, Type 2475.

In addition to taking pictures of the sky the camera records the actual universal time when each picture is taken. A sample of several frames of a film is shown in Figure A.5. Pictures of the sky and the recorded times are clearly shown.

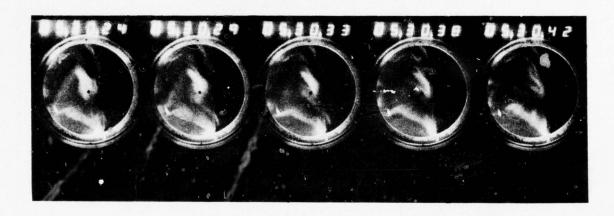


Figure A.5 Example of the All-Sky Camera Format.

### Photometers

The photometers used to measure the 3914A atmospheric emission data presented in this report were developed by Larry Jensen of Utah State University. They are similar in construction to the type used for the ICECAP Rocket-borne Measurement Program.

A basic optical and electrical layout which is representative of the photometers is shown in Figure A.6. Basically the system consists of a filter to define the spectral bandwidth, a lens to condense the optical signal, an aperture to define the field of view, a photomultiplier to convert the optical signal to an electrical signal, and electronics to amplify and process the electrical signal. The complete optical head, consisting of the optics, the photomultiplier, the preamplifier, and the log amplifier, is contained in a 7-inch x 1.5 inch x 2.0 inch aluminum box. This small size made the photometers ideal for use in the aircraft, since they were easily mounted to the 1.7  $\mu m$  radiometer.

Only one photometer was used during the 1975 measurements. It was operated with a  $10^{\rm O}$  field of view, a 14A spectral bandwidth centered at 3914A, and a 40 HZ response time. The minimum detectable signal was limited by the dark current of the photomultiplier, the lower limit being 7 Rayleighs.

During the 1976 measurements, two additional photometers were added. They used the same design and had the same characteristics except one had a 5° field of view and the other had a 2° field of view. They were included to give increased spatial resolution. They were specifically selected to match the additional field of view options of the 2.75 to 3.04  $\mu m$  radiometer.

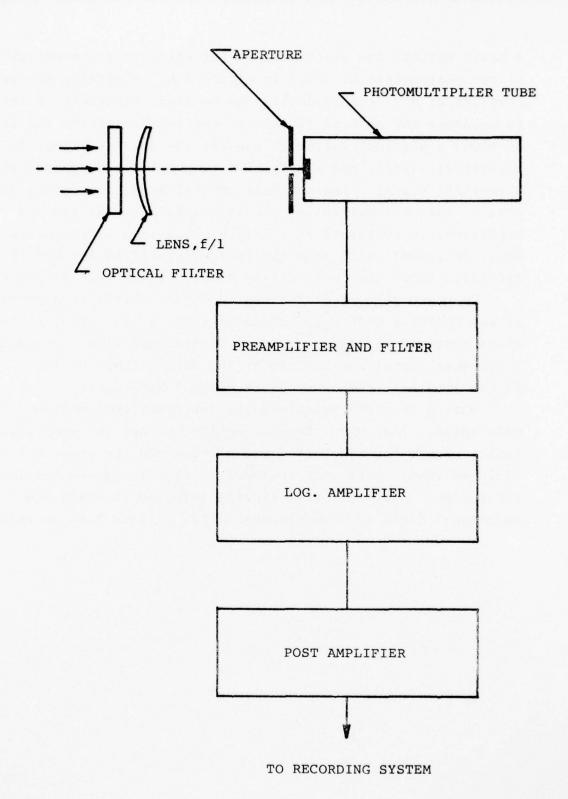


Figure A.6 Optical and Electrical Layout of 3914A Photometer.

### APPENDIX B

# COORDINATION OF AIRCRAFT MEASUREMENTS AND CHATANIKA RADAR MEASUREMENTS

The Chatanika incoherent scatter radar system, operated by Stanford Research Institute, provides altitude information and densities of the charged particles creating an aurora. Since it is desirable to study the altitude dependencies of the enhanced infrared emissions, an attempt was made to coordinate some scans of the radar system with the aircraft flight plans. The coordination was only attempted in the 1976 measurement series; and since the radar system was also supporting the rocket launches, only a limited amount of coordination was possible. Table B.1 summarizes the type and quality of the coverage provided by the radar system for the various aircraft flights as reported by Kodsky et al. [1977]. This summary along with the aircraft data presented in this report should provide a starting place for the altitude dependence analysis of the infrared emissions.

TABLE B.1. SUMMARY OF MEASUREMENT MODES OF THE DNA 617 BACKSCATTER RADAR FOR THE NIGHTS OF THE 1976 AIRCRAFT MEASUREMENTS.

DATE	RADAR MODE	TIME	OVERLAP ON AIRCRAFT
28 FEB	PRE-PLANNED MERIDIAN SCANS TRUNCATED ** MERIDIAN SCANS 3-POSITION <sup>+</sup>	0801-0940 0943-1001 1001-1220	VERY GOOD FAIR POOR
29 FEB	TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS 3-POSITION	0720-0929 0931-1210	FAIR. A/C 60 n.m. W POOR W
01 MAR	3-POSITION TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS 3-POSITION	0551-0942 0943-1103 1103-1250	POOR FAIR. A/C W POOR
03 MAR	TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS 3-POSITION	0510-0720 0723-	MAY BE GOOD A/C LANDING
07 MAR	3-POSITION TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS 3-POSITION	0624-0910 0912-1049 1049-	A/C TAKEOFF MAY BE GOOD
08 MAR	3-POSITION TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS AZ 044 <sup>0</sup> T after <b>0</b> 938	0630-0927 0927-1211	POOR MAY BE GOOD
26 MAR	8-POSITION <sup>++</sup> TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS AZ 044°T, 36° to 90° E£	0644-0911 0917-1017	FAIR FAIR
	3-POSITION, NOT AS ABOVE TRUNCATED MERIDIAN SCANS AZ 044°T, 36° TO 90° E&	1017-1140 1140-1208	FAIR FAIR

- \* SCANS DESIGNED TO OVERLAP THE AIRCRAFT FLIGHT PROFILE.
- \*\* GENERALLY FROM  $\sim 100^{\rm O}$  TO  $\sim 30^{\rm O}$  E1 (MEASURED FROM N HORIZON) ON 029  $^{\rm O}T$  AZIMUTH.
- + 67° ELEVATION (MEASURED FROM N HORIZON), 029°, 154°, 264°T. THE ANTENNA IS MOVED EACH 3 MIN, AND THE A/C FIELD MAY FORTUITOUSLY INTERCEPT THE REGION IT MEASURED.
- ++ 76.5°, 209°; 62°, 272°; 52°, 280°; 76.5°, 209°; 62°, 145°; 52°, 137°; 76.5°, 209°; 62°, 209°, with 2 min dwell.
- +++  $63.2^{\circ}$ ,  $044^{\circ}$ ;  $62^{\circ}$ ,  $270^{\circ}$ ;  $62^{\circ}$ ,  $148^{\circ}$ , with  $\sim 3$  min dwell.

### APPENDIX C

### ADDITIONAL INFRARED ENHANCEMENT DATA

Additional data measured during the 1975 and 1976 ICECAP aircraft-borne measurements are cataloged in this section. A significant amount of data showing auroral enhancements is given. For completeness, data are also given for cases where the auroral enhancements were minimal.

Brief descriptions of the data are itemized in Table C.1. Significant or peculiar features of each piece of data are mentioned.

### TABLE C.1. TABLE OF FIGURE DESCRIPTIONS

# Figure No. Description

- March 1, 1976. From top to bottom the figure gives the aircraft latitude, the aircraft longitude, the data at 3914A, 2.8  $\mu m$ , and 1.70  $\mu m$ . Noteable enhancements were seen in the 2.8  $\mu m$  region which appear to be directly correlated with 3914A(N $_2^+$ ) enhancements. This data is of significance because the F.O.V. of the photometer and the 2.8  $\mu m$  radiometer were decreased from 10° to 5°. This provides a higher spatial resolution measurement. However, it should be noted that the spectral bandwidth of the 2.8  $\mu m$  channel was increased to give additional signal to compensate for the signal decrease which resulted from the decreased field of view.
- C.2 The data measured March 1, 1976 from 0930 to 1000 is plotted on an expanded time scale. A direct correlation between the 3914A( $N_2^+$ ) emissions and the 2.8  $\mu$ m emissions during the enhancement at 0945 UT is apparent.

- C.3 The data measured March 1, 1976 from 1015 to 1115 UT is plotted on an expanded time scale. Direct correlations between the 3914A enhancements and the 2.8  $\mu m$  enhancements at 1029 UT and 1150 UT are apparent. Also there appear to be enhancements in the 1.70  $\mu m$  OH data, but they do not appear to be directly correlated with the visible aurora as monitored by the 3914A photometer.
- The presented data was measured March 3, 1976 with the instrumentation viewing vertically with a  $10^{\circ}$  FOV. The data was measured through a sunset transition period, and as a result the  $1.70~\mu m$  and 3914A data were dominated by solar scatter at early times. At later times, from 0500 to 0525, large enhancements of the 2.94  $\mu m$  emissions were seen. These enhancements are directly correlated with enhancements in the 3914A emissions. Also at 0508 an enhancement occurred in the  $1.7~\mu m$  channel. It is probable that these emissions are due to the Meinel system of  $N_2^+(A^2\pi_u \longrightarrow X^2\Sigma_g^+)$  and the first positive bands of  $N_2(B^3\Pi_g \longrightarrow A^3\Sigma_u^+)$  which slightly contaminate the selected  $1.7~\mu m$  hydroxyl band.
- The data measured March 3, 1976 from 0450 to 0530 is plotted on an expanded time scale. Significant directly correlated enhancements are seen in the 3914A (N½) data and the 2.94  $\mu$ m data at 0503, 0508, and 0520. Some variations are also apparent in the 1.7  $\mu$ m (OH) channel. A 1.7  $\mu$ m enhancement at 0508 appears to be somewhat correlated with the visible aurora, but the enhancement lasts slightly longer than the 2.94  $\mu$ m and 3914A enhancement. Perhaps the 1.7  $\mu$ m enhancement can be explained by enhancements of the Meinel system of N½ (A $^2\pi_u \rightarrow X^2\Sigma_g^+$ ) and the first positive bands of N2(B $^3\Pi_g \rightarrow A^3\Sigma_u^+$ ) which

slightly contaminate the selected 1.7  $\mu\,\text{m}$  hydroxyl band.

C.6 Data measured March 3 under sunlit conditions and through a sunset transition are presented. In addition to the standard data format, the solar elevation angle is given as in Fig. C.4 for various positions and times. From the figure, it should be noted that the levels of the 3914A data and the 1.7 µm data are dominated by solar scatter at early times. However the 2.94 um channel is not dominated nearly as much by the solar scatter. For example at 0310 the solar elevation angle is about minus 1 degree and the 2.94 um signal level is not significantly larger than the value measured under night sky conditions. It should be remembered that sunset at a 100 km altitude occurs at minus 11.5 degrees solar elevation angle. Thus, it appears that one could readily measure 2.9 µm enhancements under sunlit conditions from the NKC-135 aircraft during a period when the solar elevation angle is between 0 degrees and minus 11.5 degrees. In fact, significant enhancements similar to those shown in Figure C.5 should be detectable even at larger solar elevation angles. For example, on March 3 a 200 kR enhancement would have increased the signal about 25% at a time of 0226 which corresponds to 7 degrees solar elevation.

C.7 Data measured March 8, 1976 are presented. The data has many directly correlated enhancements between the 2.94  $\mu m$  data and the 3914A (N $_2^+$ ) data. Several small increases occur in the 1.7  $\mu m$  (OH) channel. Some of the OH increases result from increased optical viewing depth of the OH layer which occurs during aircraft turns. The other small increases probably result from enhancements of the Meinel N $_2^+$ 

slightly contaminate the selected OH bands. C.8 The presented data was measured March 2, 1975. Only small enhancements of the 3914A  $(N_2^+)$  emissions were seen. No significant enhancements in the 2.83  $\mu$ m emissions were observed above the OH background. The general behaviors of the 2.83  $\mu$ m emissions and the 1.7  $\mu$ m emissions are similar.

system and the N<sub>2</sub> first positive bands which

Therefore, the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions are mainly a measurement of the OH fundamental sequence.

Data measured on March 11, 1975 are presented. Some enhancements in the 3914A ( $N_2^+$ ) emissions are apparent. Enhancements in the 2.83  $\mu m$  data, which are correlated with the 3914A data, are detectable but are not large in comparison to the OH background at 2.83  $\mu m$ . The 1.7  $\mu m$  OH data has an interesting increase which is centered at 0825 UT. This increase does not appear in the 2.83  $\mu m$  data as one might expect.

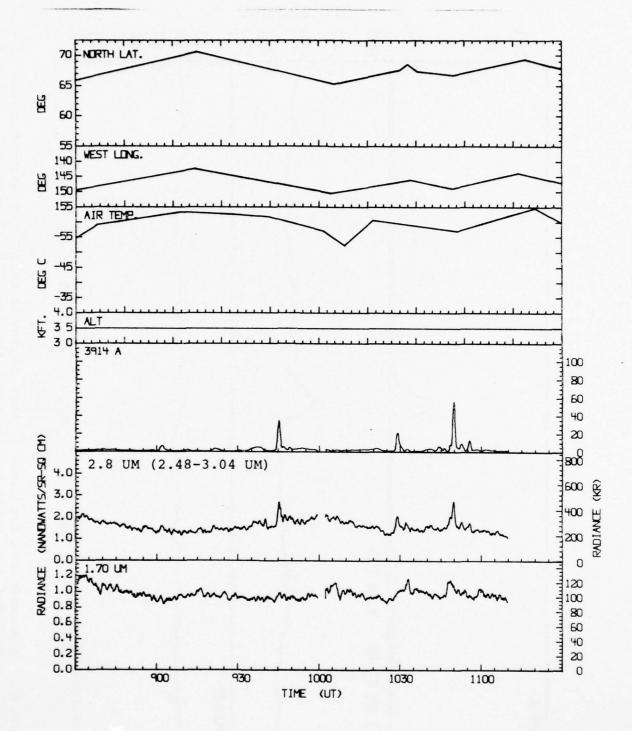
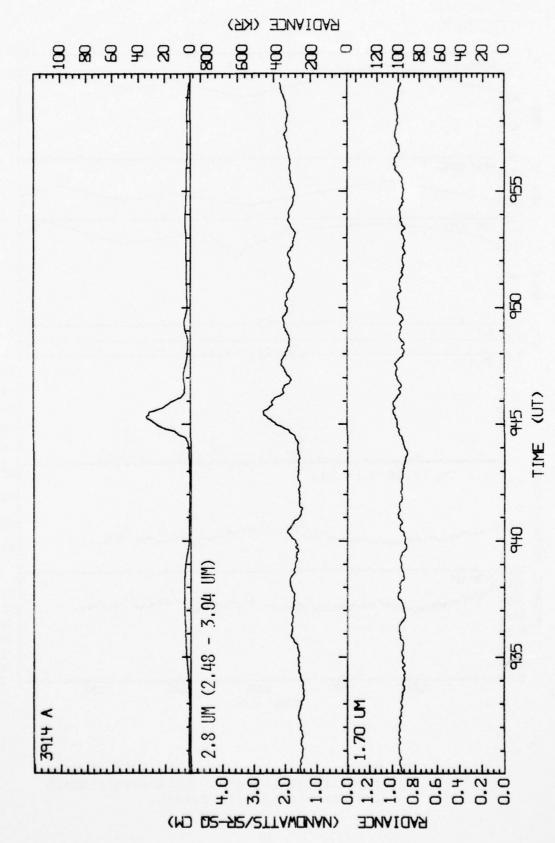
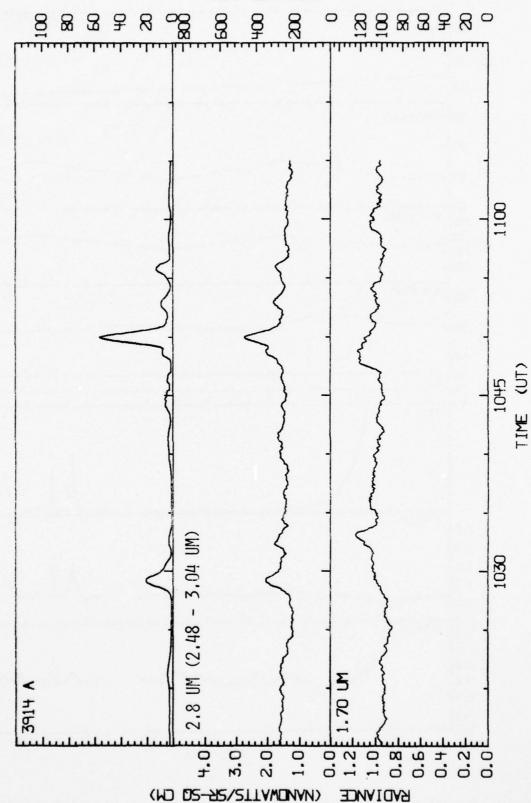


Figure C.1 Measured data for March 1, 1976 showing significant infrared enhancements which are correlated with aurora.



Measured data for March 1, 1976 from 0930 to 1000 UT plotted on an expanded time scale to illustrate the temporal and spatial correlation between the emissions. Figure C.2





Measured data for March 1, 1976 from 1015 to 1115 UT plotted on an expanded time scale to illustrate the temporal and spatial correlation between the emissions. Figure C.3

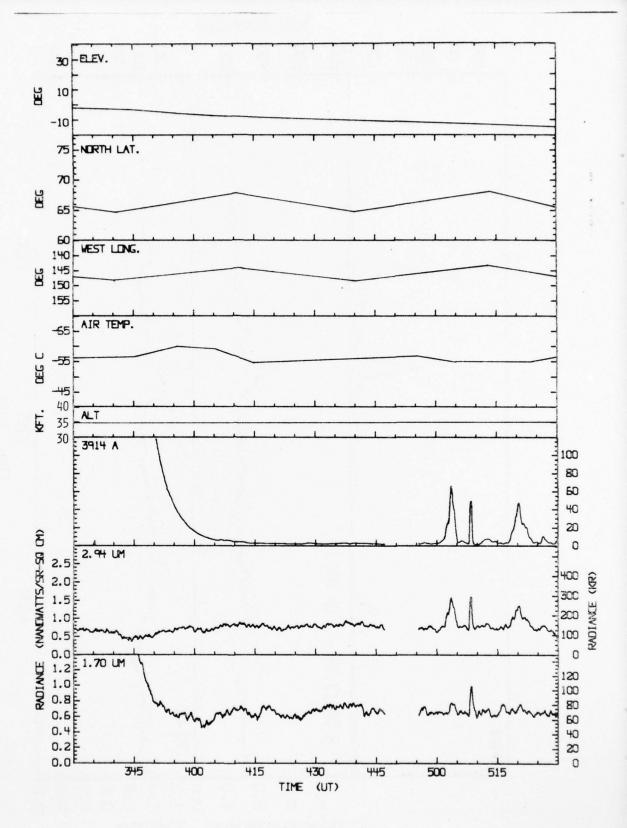
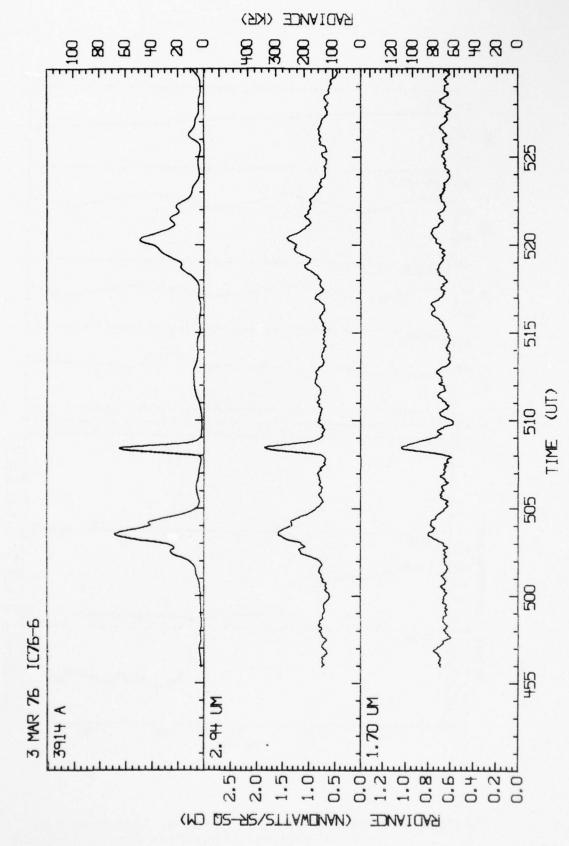
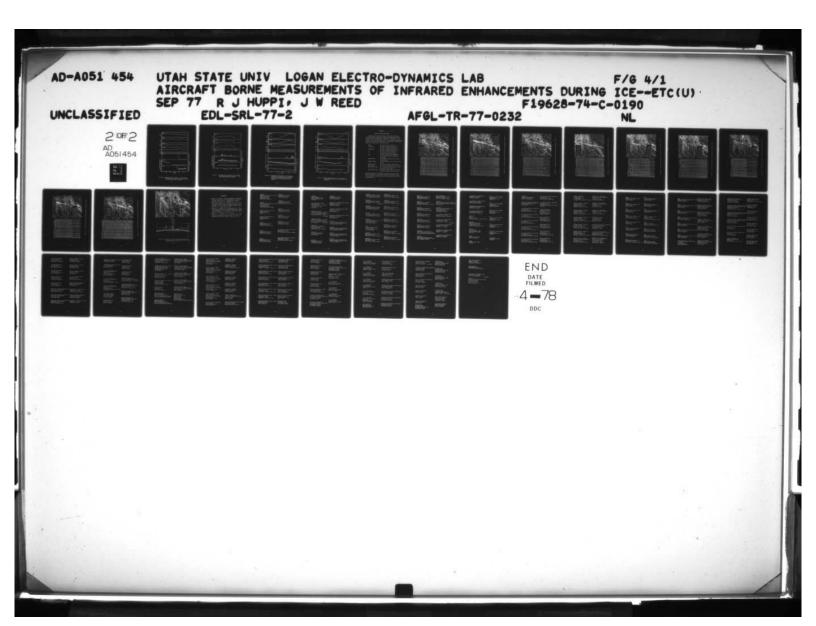


Figure C.4 Measured data for March 3, 1976 which includes significant auroral enhancements and a sunset transition.



Measured data for March 3, 1976 from 0450 to 0530 plotted on an expanded time scale to illustrate the temporal and spatial correlation between the emissions. Figure C.5



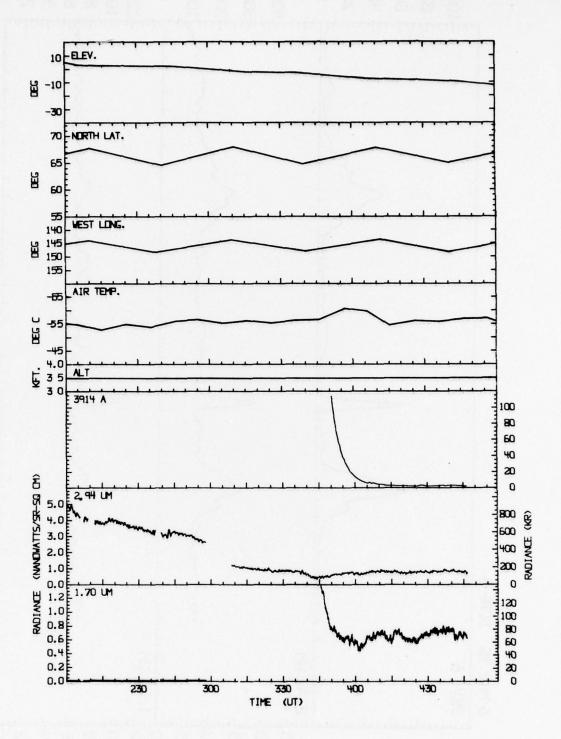


Figure C.6 Measured data for March 3, 1976 from 0200 to 0500 showing intensities during daylight and sunset transition conditions.

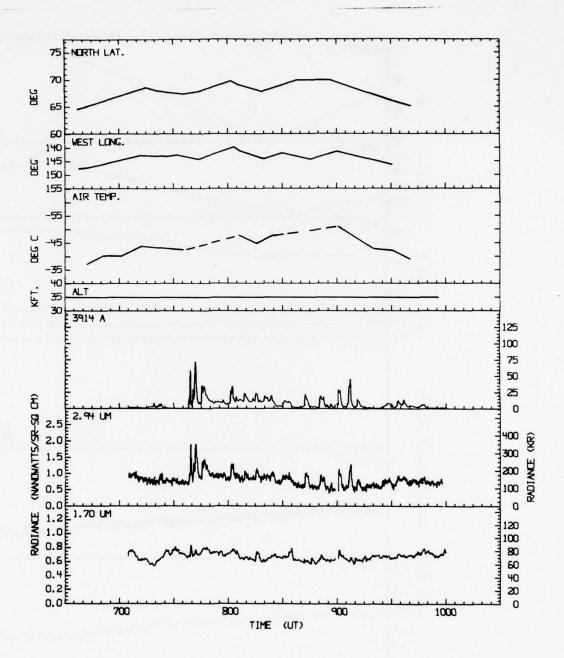


Figure C.7 Measured data for March 8, 1976 showing significant infrared enhancements which are correlated with the aurora.

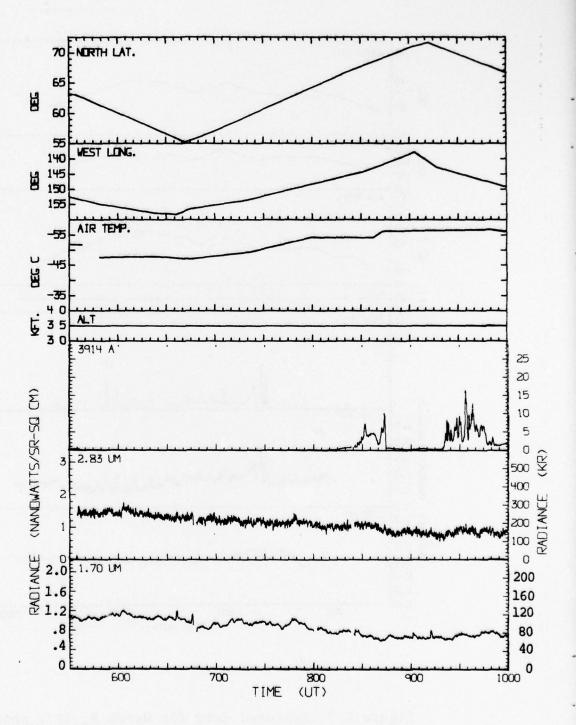


Figure C.8 Measured data for March 2, 1975 showing correlation between the 2.83  $\mu m$  emissions and the 1.7  $\mu m$  (OH) emissions during a period when the auroral activity was minimal.

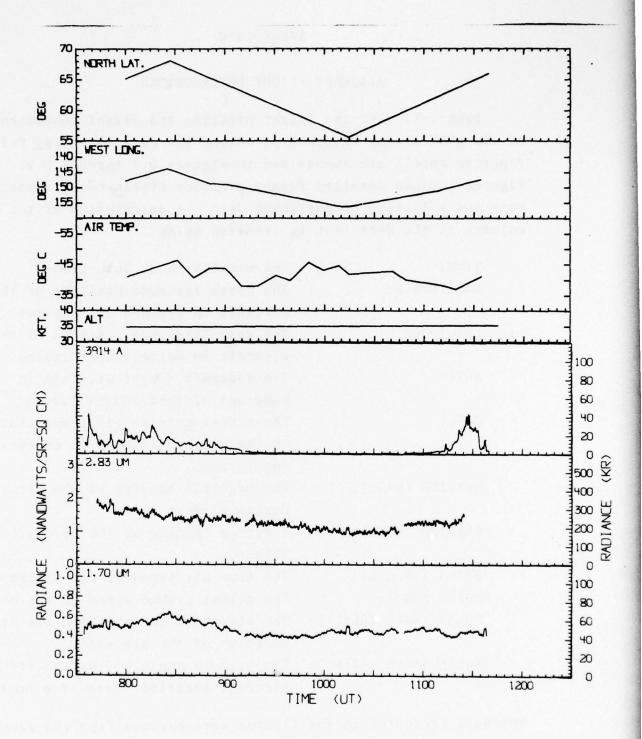


Figure C.9 Measured data for March 11, 1975 showing small enhancements in the 3914A and 2.83  $\mu\text{m}$  emissions.

### APPENDIX D

### AIRCRAFT FLIGHT DESCRIPTIONS

Description of the flight profiles and flight conditions of the AFGL Flying Laboratory, during the data measuring periods reported herein are summarized in Figures D.1 through D.9. The figures include detailed flight profiles overlayed on topographical maps and a listing of pertinent data. A description of the various columns in the data list is itemized below:

TIME: Universal time or Zulu time.

LATITUDE N: The north latitude position of the

aircraft in degrees and minutes.

LONGITUDE W: The west longitude position of the

aircraft in degrees and minutes.

ALT.: The aircraft flight altitude in

hundreds of feet (Flight Level).

OAT.: The actual outside air temperature

at the flight altitude in degrees

centigrade.

HEADING (MAG.): The magnetic heading of the aircraft

during flight.

HEADING (TRUE): The true heading of the aircraft during

flight.

SPEED (TR.AIR): The true air speed of the aircraft.

SPEED (GRD): The actual ground speed of the aircraft.

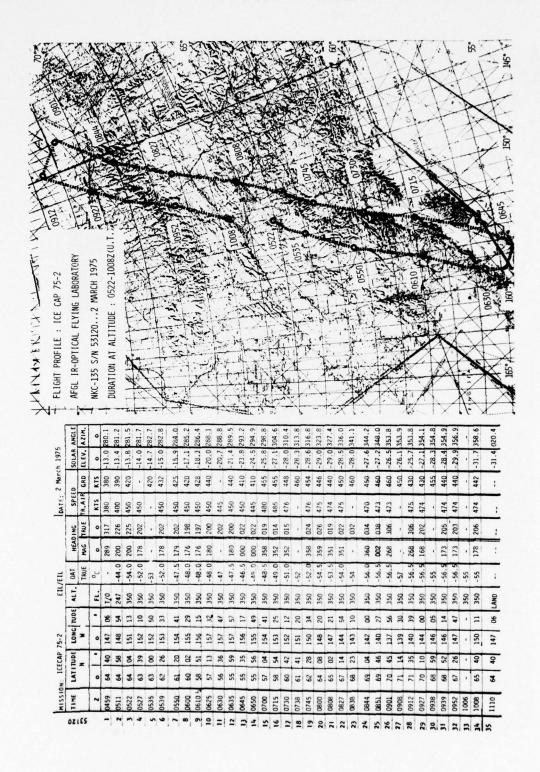
SOLAR ANGLE (ELEV.): The elevation angle of the sun at the

position of the aircraft.

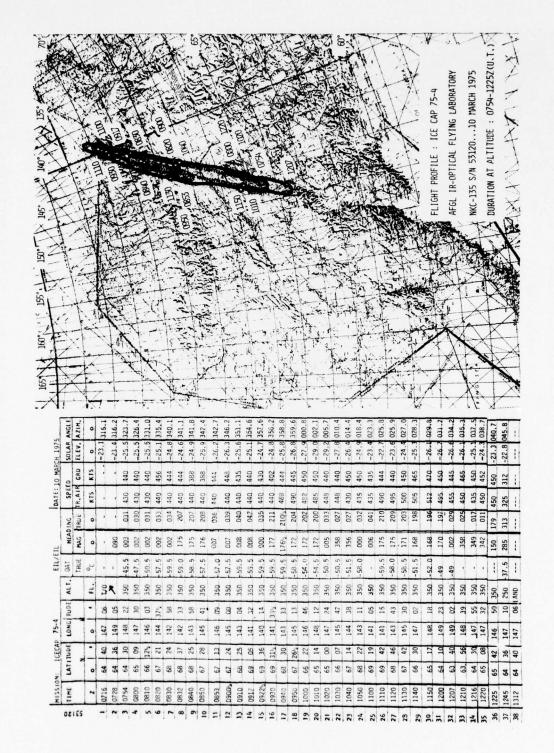
SOLAR ANGLE (AZIM.): The azimuth angle of the sun from the

aircraft location (from true north).

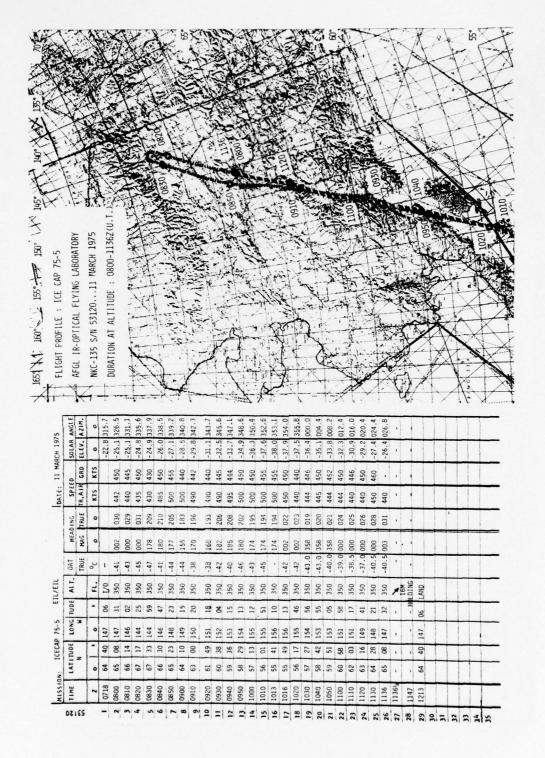
The data presented in the figures were derived from the actual flight logs taken by the aircraft navigator during the flights. It is presented as an additional aid for understanding the data presented herein.



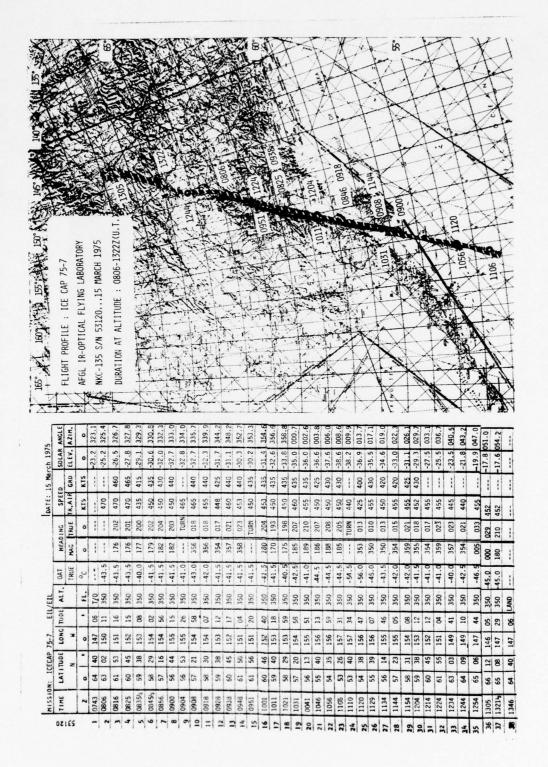
Flight description for measurements performed 2 Mar 75. Figure D.1.



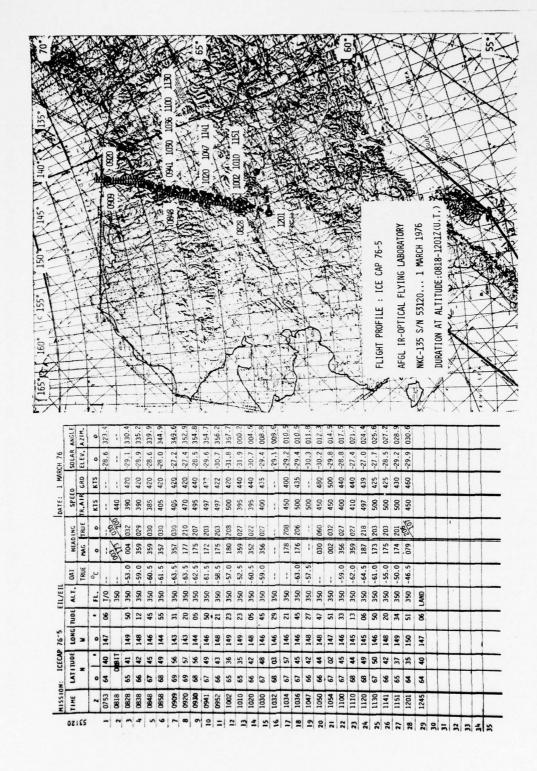
Flight description for measurements performed 10 Mar 75. Figure D.2.



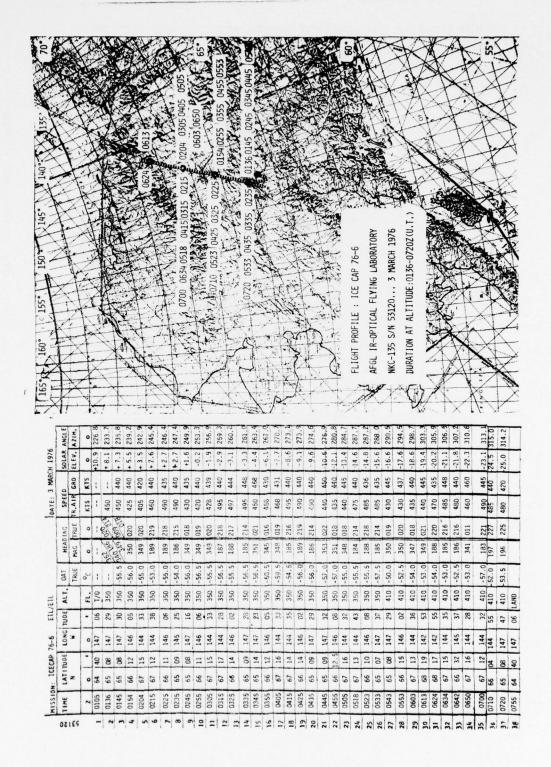
Flight description for measurements performed 11 Mar 75. Figure D.3.



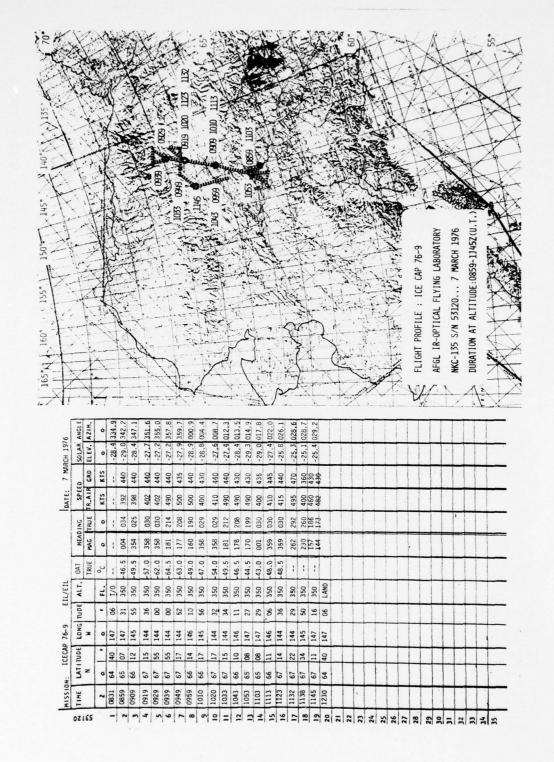
Flight description for measurements performed 15 Mar 75. Figure D.4.



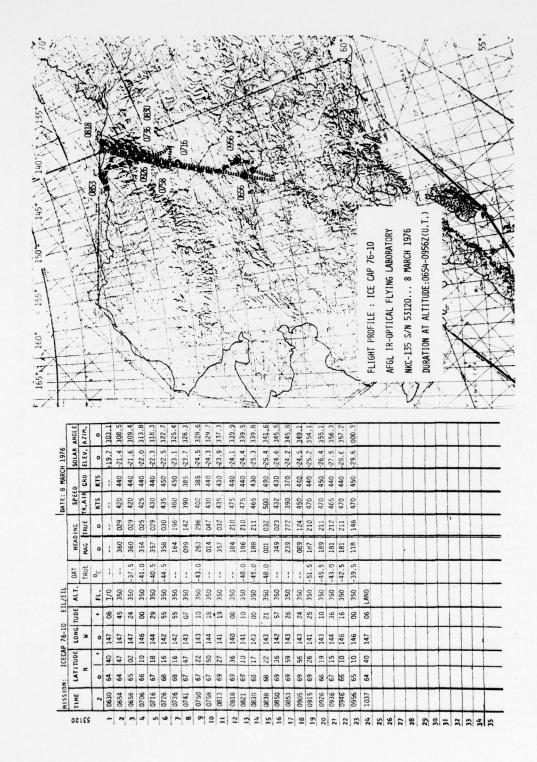
Flight description for measurements performed 1 Mar 76 Figure D.5.



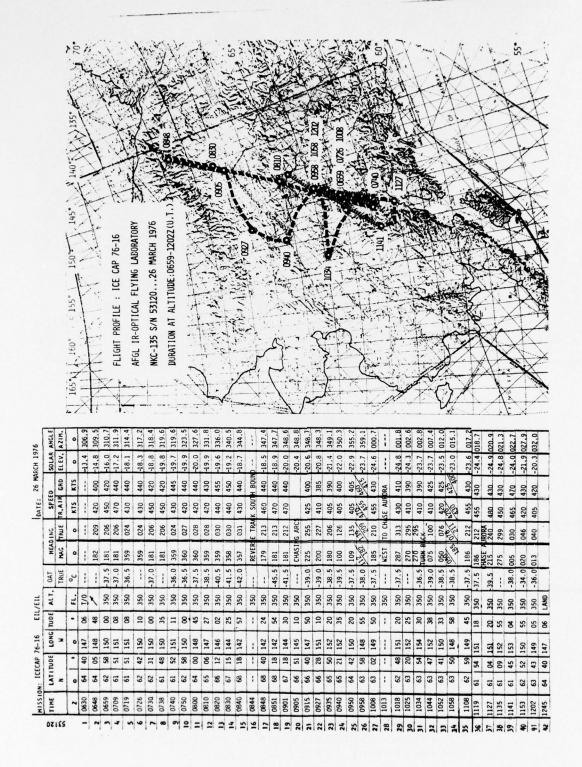
Flight description for measurements performed 3 Mar 76. Figure D.6.



Flight description for measurements performed 7 Mar 76. Figure D.7.



Flight description for measurements performed 8 Mar 76. Figure D.8.



Flight description for measurements performed 26 Mar 76. Figure D.9.

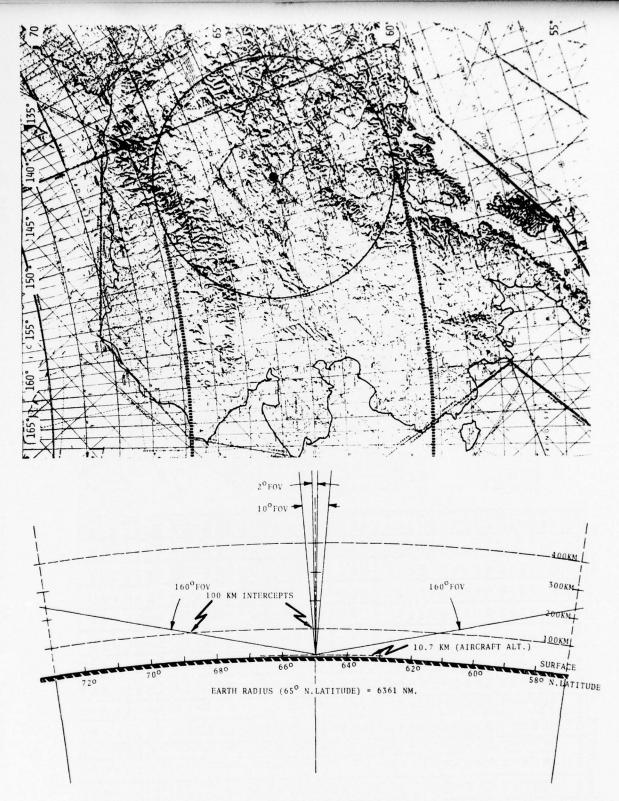


Figure D.10 Cross Section of Alaska Showing Footprint of 100km Intercept with 2°, 10° and 160° Airborne Instrument Fields of View.

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